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17th November 2020

Dear families,

As you may know, we've been working hard to improve our remote learning offer in order to support individual pupils, bubbles or year groups in case they are not able to attend lessons. At William Ellis School our remote learning offer is delivered through Microsoft Teams. This software means that all students and families will have access to Microsoft products from home, using this world class software throughout their secondary education.

Please find a video which explains how you and your child can use teams in an efficient way by following [this link](#).

For students who are self-isolating this week and into next, we realise that this unavoidable disruption to their learning is a cause of stress and anxiety for students and parents. Although universities and other educational institutions provide hybrid models of learning, infrastructure limitations and the nature of classroom interactions mean that this is not a viable model for lessons where large numbers of students are still in school.

For students who are currently self-isolating we are offering the current online provision:

- Student work set as Assignments on Teams for each of their lessons – this is a mixture of independent tasks and guided study so that students are covering the same curriculum content as their peers in school
- Teacher follow up with students who do not access or complete work on Teams
- Some live online provision over the course of the isolation period

Live provision is only possible in the following circumstances:

- Where a large majority of the class are isolating, so the teacher is able to teach online and work with students in class
- If classes in school can be combined in a subject to allow one teacher to teach online
- Where staff absence in a subject area allows capacity for the points above to happen. All schools are experiencing higher staff absence due to contact tracing and testing turnaround times

The live provision will be arranged daily, so students should log onto Teams at 8:35am to check the sessions that they have been invited to that day. They will not necessarily be delivered by the class teacher they would normally have.

I realise that for families and students this is an uncertain and difficult time, as it is for all of us. If you would like to attend a forum for discussion around these issues, please respond by filling in [this form](#).

It is clear that parental involvement is key to students developing strong study habits and in helping them to develop a good awareness of online safety. Students' use of Office 365 is still covered by our guidance on e-safety – please see the webpage [Parents > Keeping your child safe](#)

If your son does not have digital access at home please email Mr Germanos: germanos@williamellis.camden.sch.uk

Yours sincerely,

Ms I Jones, Headteacher/Mr C Germanos, Lead Practitioner