



29th January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope this letter finds you safe and well; January is often a difficult month for many but this one feels especially challenging. We heard yesterday from the Prime Minister that the national lockdown will extend into March and as such, pupils will not be able to return to school before then. I know how difficult this is, for you and for your children, but we must remain optimistic and have faith that we will get through these challenging times.

I would like to thank those parents and carers who took the time to respond to our parental survey and shared their thoughts and feedback about our remote learning. In light of this feedback, and in response to the fact that our remote learning will be extended until at least the 8th March, we are introducing some live lessons for pupils in Years 7 to 9, bringing them in line with the current blended offer at key stage 4 and sixth form.

From Monday, 1st February, teachers will be inviting their key stage 3 classes to join them live; this may take the form of a brief check-in to see how everyone is doing, offer feedback or teach new content. What is most important for us is that we have some live interaction with the children we love and miss, and hope that we can boost their learning in the process. Please read the key information regarding these live lessons outlined below and share with your children:

- Teachers will schedule their live lessons with their groups so that pupils receive an invite and know exactly which lessons to attend
- Lessons will run to the school timetable
- Pupils must enter their live lessons through the invite on their calendar
- When pupils enter their live lesson, they must ensure their camera is off and they are muted until their teacher invites them to speak
- All live lessons are recorded for safeguarding purposes. This also means that if a child is unable to participate in the live lesson, they can access the recording afterwards
- Pupils are expected to behave as they would in the classroom; any inappropriate behaviour will result in them being removed from the lesson and unable to join future lessons
- Live lessons will vary in duration and may run for anything between 10 and 50 minutes, dependent on the purpose of the session
- Pupils can expect two live sessions a week for core subjects (English, Maths and Science), one session a week for Humanities (History, Geography and RE) and French or Punjabi and one session a fortnight for all other subjects.
- Pre-recorded lessons and work to be completed independently will also be posted to ensure that pupils have work to do for every timetable lesson. Please note that the previous schedule for posting work for KS3 will not be used from Monday – we will be working to the school timetable only

I know that this addition to our remote learning offer will be welcomed by many. If you do have any queries about remote learning or would like to discuss any of this information further, please do not hesitate to get in touch with your child's Head of Year in the first instance by emailing enquiries.NHSB@nishkamschools.org or calling the school on 0121 348 7660.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Wilks', written in a cursive style.

Mrs E. Wilks
Vice Principal