

## Home Learning

As we expect schools to be closed for a while longer, we thought it would be useful to set out in detail to you how we are trying to support home learning, although we fully appreciate the pressures that this places on families. In general, we ask that pupils follow their normal timetable although appreciate that some lessons, such as music, are not practical to offer and where pupils have a gap, they do some private study or reading.

This letter details both what we are doing and the various ways your child can connect with the school

### **On mobile devices**

Our school website has been updated so that it runs more easily on mobile devices. You are also able to download a mobile app that will enable you to access it on both android and apple phones. Go to your app store and download the 'moodle app' and then either enter the school website address ([www.yardleys-vle.com](http://www.yardleys-vle.com)) or scan the QR code below when prompted by your phone. You then log in with your child's 4 digit username and password.



You'll first see the home page of the website, but if you click on 'Dashboard' at the top of the screen, you'll have access to all your child's subjects. Your child can also read and reply to messages from teachers and take photographs and submit work.

### **On laptops**

The school website ([www.yardleys-vle.com](http://www.yardleys-vle.com)) contains all the student's subjects when they click on 'My Courses' just underneath the school logo.

As a school we have distributed 186 devices, but know that many more pupils are without devices. We are continuing to try and secure more from central government and continue to keep details of those families who need support.

### **Xbox and Playstation**

If you are a family that already has a gaming device in the household, this also can be easily used to connect to our website. For the Xbox, press the Xbox button on the controller to open the guide, and then select "My games & apps". Here, you need to find Microsoft's internet browser Microsoft Edge.

The PS4's access is similar. From the PS4 home screen, scroll to the library. Then, click on applications. If you scroll down the apps you'll see a "www" sign circled by small dots. Click on that, and you're online.

If you need a keyboard and/or mouse provided, the school would be happy to provide one to ease use.

### **Pre-recorded Sessions**

By clicking on 'My Courses' on the school website, your child will find recorded videos detailing the work that should be done for each lesson. Due to download issues which we know many of you are

experiencing, we have asked that these videos are not overlong, but clearly explain the tasks that should be undertaken each lesson.

We are aiming to keep a majority of our lessons pre-recorded because of the difficulty many are having in accessing 'live sessions' because they are having to share devices.

### **Live Sessions**

We are starting off each day with a brief live tutor session for your child which we would like you to encourage them to take part in. These are timed so that they do not overlap, allowing different children to share the same device. If your child is not able to connect to these, they will still be phoned by their tutor during the week.

We are also starting to carry out live sessions with all year groups, but will ensure that these do not account for all of a pupil's lessons for a particular subject as we know that various reasons can prevent access to a lesson at a given time. As with recorded sessions, these live sessions will be limited in length and focus on explaining work and/or giving feedback.

### **Homework**

Our usual homework system is still running as we firmly believe that regular practice and overlearning is a significant way that pupils learn information. We are that all pupils spend time on ixl maths doing 4 exercises a week; and complete one quiz each week on frogplay for each of their subjects. Pupils in Years 7 and 8 should also practice their number work for at least 30 minutes using Times Tables Rockstars. Links to all these resources can be found by going to the 'Knowledge and Homework' page on the school website.

### **Reading**

Reading is important and should continue if pupils are going to continue to grow and develop their reading ability. We have made a selection of books available via our website (<https://www.yardleys-vle.com/course/view.php?id=1075>) and will continue to add texts while libraries are closed.

### **Problems**

Where you have a technical issue or need a password resetting, please send an email to [techsupport@yardleys.bham.sch.uk](mailto:techsupport@yardleys.bham.sch.uk) giving as much detail as possible to aid identification of both the issue and the pupil concerned.