

# Cottenham Village College Parent Weekly Newsletter

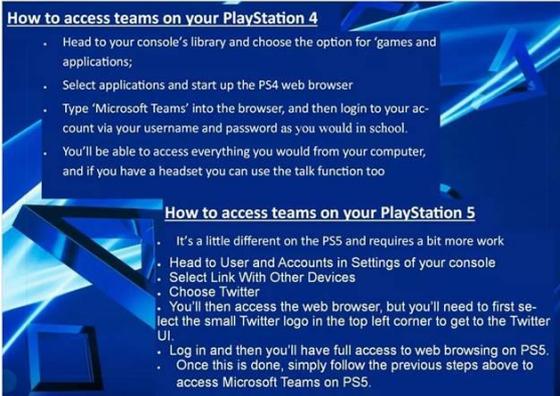
## w/c 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021



<p><b>Welcome</b></p>	<p>Dear Parents and Carers,</p> <p>Welcome to the first weekly newsletter which will be sent to you on a Tuesday. We have been very mindful of the number of letters that we are having to send out to you and thought it would be more helpful for you to receive a newsletter with all the information in for the week rather than a number of communications. We do hope you find this useful.</p> <p>Best wishes, Miss Cassady, Principal</p>
<p><b>Pastoral information</b></p>	<p>Later in this newsletter, you will find information about changes to our pastoral structure that have come into effect since the start of this term.</p> <p>You will also find details on how our tutor program will run during the weeks we are in lockdown. If you have a concern regarding the welfare of your child, please do communicate these to their form tutor, head of year, or pastoral coordinator as detailed on the next page. Please be aware that you can also report any concerns regarding unpleasantness between students via the “Report a Concern” link on the college’s website.</p>
<p><b>Assembly</b></p>	<p>Our first assembly of the term has been sent to tutors to disseminate to form groups. The assembly goes through some general information and advice for the weeks ahead, communicates changes to the tutor team and wider pastoral team, and reminds students of the expectations for them accessing remote learning.</p>
<p><b>Vulnerable and critical worker students on-site</b></p>	<p>For all students who are on-site receiving their education we do need to be notified if your child shows symptoms of COVID-19 and also tests positive. Please notify us via <a href="mailto:studentservices@astreacottenham.org">studentservices@astreacottenham.org</a>. We will then put in place the track and trace process.</p>
<p><b>Testing on-site</b></p>	<p>Testing on school site for vulnerable and critical worker students and staff starts this week. You have received the link to give consent for your child to be tested, if you haven’t completed this yet, please do so asap.</p>
<p><b>Donations of old laptops</b></p>	<p>CVC has registered to the scheme for old laptops. If you have an old laptop (any kind) that you wish to donate, please bring this to reception between 8.00am and 3.30pm Monday-Friday.</p>
<p><b>Parent feedback</b></p>	<p>We are delighted to receive emails from families regarding our remote teaching provision and it is lovely to be able to share these with staff. If you would like to submit your views using <a href="https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/">https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/</a> we would be most appreciative of the support.</p>
<p><b>Remote Education</b></p>	<p><b>Thank you</b></p> <p>Thank you for all your support for your son/daughter as they have been learning remotely this week. The informal feedback about the ‘live’ lessons has been extremely positive and pupils are actively engaged in meaningful activity across the school day.</p> <p><b>The curriculum and the timetable</b></p> <p>Pupils are making excellent use of MS Teams to access remote education and should continue to follow their usual timetable in order to access all forms of remote education. This way, we are confident that pupils will continue to follow the planned curriculum as they would have in school and allow for a smooth transition back to classroom learning when we are able to do so. If any pupils have issues around access to any subjects, they can contact their teacher via Teams or via email.</p> <p><b>Exciting Resources</b></p> <p>Pupils will be supplied with everything they need to complete the activities we are setting. However, you might be interested in finding out about useful resources as we become aware of them. This week we are sharing the link to the secondary BBC website that supports remote learning at secondary level: <a href="#">Secondary BBC site</a>.</p>

## Varying ways to access Teams at home

You might be interested to know that MS Teams can be accessed on PlayStation 4 or X Box 1. This information might be useful to enable pupils to be able to work on different devices when otherwise they would be sharing.

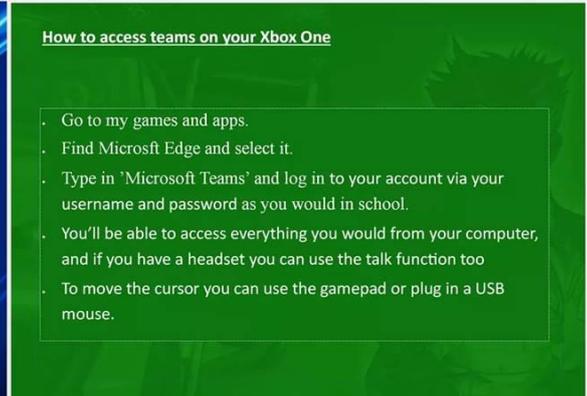


**How to access teams on your PlayStation 4**

- Head to your console's library and choose the option for 'games and applications';
- Select applications and start up the PS4 web browser
- Type 'Microsoft Teams' into the browser, and then login to your account via your username and password as you would in school.
- You'll be able to access everything you would from your computer, and if you have a headset you can use the talk function too

**How to access teams on your PlayStation 5**

- It's a little different on the PS5 and requires a bit more work
- Head to User and Accounts in Settings of your console
- Select Link With Other Devices
- Choose Twitter
- You'll then access the web browser, but you'll need to first select the small Twitter logo in the top left corner to get to the Twitter UI.
- Log in and then you'll have full access to web browsing on PS5.
- Once this is done, simply follow the previous steps above to access Microsoft Teams on PS5.



**How to access teams on your Xbox One**

- Go to my games and apps.
- Find Microsoft Edge and select it.
- Type in 'Microsoft Teams' and log in to your account via your username and password as you would in school.
- You'll be able to access everything you would from your computer, and if you have a headset you can use the talk function too
- To move the cursor you can use the gamepad or plug in a USB mouse.

## Support with Teams

We recognise that the demands of remote learning are challenging and many pupils may be struggling with the technical aspects of working with Teams. Please see below useful videos for pupils to watch which takes them through the basics of how to join a 'live' lesson and uploading their work so that teachers can provide feedback electronically.

[TEAMS – using Teams as a student.mp4](#)

[TEAMS – How students check their feedback.mp4](#)

## Pupil evaluation

Every Friday we are asking pupils to reflect on their learning across the week. We trialled this survey with pupils on Friday 8 January. The feedback from this pupil survey suggests that remote education has got off to a positive start. We have streamlined the survey for this Friday to ensure that is not too time-consuming for pupils and to make sure everyone completes it. The aims of this weekly survey are for pupils to reflect on their engagement with remote learning and for us to use the data to improve or change our practice where needed. Tutors will remind pupils about the survey in their weekly pastoral session. Please support us with this by encouraging your son/daughter to complete the survey.

## Your Feedback

We will be regularly asking you for parental feedback on our remote learning offer for pupils. In the meantime, do continue to contact us with any feedback on what is going well or where we might develop our practice.

## Year 11 Catch-up sessions

Catch-up sessions will continue online from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January. Invitations and individual timetables will be sent to parents and pupils this week ahead of sessions resuming next Monday.

<p><b>Changes to the pastoral team and form groups</b></p>	<p>This term we have made some changes to the pastoral team following several internal promotions within the college. This impacts on each year group in the ways laid out below.</p> <p><b><u>Year 7</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Holt will remain as Progress Leader for KS3 but will oversee the pastoral care of Year 7.</li> <li>• Miss Cockrill will provide further support as the KS3 pastoral coordinator.</li> <li>• Miss Braysher will now be the full-time form tutor for 7M.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Year 8</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Need is the newly appointed Head of Year for Year 8.</li> <li>• Miss Cockrill will provide further support as the KS3 pastoral coordinator.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Year 9</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Purser is the newly appointed Head of Year for Year 9.</li> <li>• Mrs Bishop will be the full-time form tutor for 9L.</li> <li>• Miss Cockrill will provide further support as the KS3 pastoral coordinator.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Year 10</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Kirby is the newly appointed Head of Year for Year 10.</li> <li>• Mrs Roth and Miss Manser will be co-tutoring 10K.</li> <li>• Mrs Stearn will provide further support as the KS4 pastoral coordinator.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Year 11</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Abbott will remain as Progress Leader for KS4 but will oversee the pastoral care of Year 11.</li> <li>• Mrs Bussingham and Mrs Holmes will be co-tutoring 11L.</li> <li>• Mr Manwell will be the form tutor for 11T.</li> <li>• Mrs Stearn will provide further support as the KS4 pastoral coordinator.</li> </ul> <p>Further to these changes, there will be wider support available from Mrs Cornwell, who is the Pupil Premium and student support coordinator and Mr Wilbraham who is the behaviour coordinator.</p>
<p><b>Form time</b></p>	<p>This week, our wider curriculum offer will resume involving three weekly sessions. As two of these will be live sessions, students will be expected to attend as they do normal lessons. These sessions will begin at the normal form time (08:45) and will be completed in time for the first teaching period. If tutors need to change the days of the sessions on an individual basis, they will communicate this to their group.</p> <p>On <b>Mondays</b>, students will be required to join a tutor session aimed to prepare students for the week ahead, flag up any welfare concerns and additional support required, and allow for positive interaction amongst the group during these strange times.</p> <p>An assembly will be sent out for all students to view in time for <b>Tuesday</b> morning. Whilst there will be no live session to attend, students should view the assembly in this time as some of the themes discussed may be part of Thursday's session.</p> <p>On <b>Thursdays</b>, a live session will take place to deliver our Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) program. We have adjusted our previous plans to make sure that our PSHE curriculum meets the demands of the current climate and believe that what will be discussed will be of immense value to students during these challenging times.</p>

**Reporting to  
parents**

**Year 10 Parents' Evening**

We are looking forward to seeing parents and pupils online on Thursday 4.15-7.15pm. Instructions about how to make appointments using the new SchoolCloud system, and how to attend them, have been shared with parents. If you have any problems, please contact the school.

**Year 9 GCSE options**

This term, we will be running the options process for Year 9 pupils so they can start to make decisions about their GCSE curriculum. However, we will not be holding any virtual options evening next week due to current circumstances. Pupils will have an assembly soon, outlining the process and more details will be sent to parents as soon as we have them ready. Thank you in advance for your patience.

**Reports**

We are in the process of devising a simple way of giving parents a report about their child's engagement with remote education during this period of lockdown, so you know about their attitude to learning in live lessons and have feedback on their progress through remote learning. Details will be shared soon. We will continue to contact parents where we feel there is a need to support individual pupils and ensure they are engaging fully with remote learning. In the meantime, please contact the school if you wish to speak to a member of staff or if you need help with any aspect of the remote provision.