

Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to update you on the launch of Google Classroom and the next phase of remote learning for students. We are impressed with how well students have responded to the unprecedented changes and how engaged they have been with work that has been set. We have been working over the last few weeks to set up Google Classroom as a new system that will enable us to provide feedback to students on key pieces of work and to allow there to be greater interaction between teachers and students in academic subjects and in form time. We look forward to being able to extend the support we offer to students in this next phase. You may wish to watch this short clip which gives an introduction to Google Classroom <https://youtu.be/DeOVe2YV2Io>.

We are grateful for feedback and suggestions from parents and students and this has helped us to shape the work going forward. Google Classroom will enable there to be feedback, will enable teachers to respond to questions and support students with their work and will also enable us to follow up more effectively if students are not completing work to the best of their ability. We will continue to review our systems and we are keen to extend the interaction between teachers and students as we become more experienced in Google Classroom.

In the week before the Whit holiday we are providing training to teachers and a number of teachers are currently trialling Google Classroom with Year 12 classes, including myself. As part of the trial, I have assigned work and posted responses to student queries this morning and am looking forward to giving feedback on the next essay through Google Classroom. We are pleased that we have been successful in our application to the Department for Education (DfE) for support to ensure a smooth set up and training for staff on Google Classroom.

Google Classroom will be launched to Years 7-10 on Monday 1 June which is the day we get back from the Whit holiday. Year 12 will also be able to use the system alongside the existing systems for feedback and interaction that are in place for them. When students log in to Google Classroom for the first time they will see the classes for all their subjects. We will provide further guidance on how to log on and use the system, although I think students will find it very straightforward to use.

Google Classroom will work alongside our existing tried and tested systems. Work will continue to be set on Doodle as that has worked well. In response to feedback it will be set in two week blocks from 1 June in all subjects and will reflect more closely the number of lessons that the students would have had in that fortnight which should allow them to tackle the work in manageable chunks. This has worked well in some subjects and will now be followed by all. We will also extend the number of video tutorials which will support students through watching demonstrations or listening to instructions or commentary on PowerPoints from our own staff.

In addition to the assessed work that will receive teacher feedback there will still be Doodle quizzes etc for many subjects and those give students instant feedback and links to other resources if they get things wrong. If students are struggling with any of the work set on Doodle they can communicate with their teachers on Google Classroom and receive help.

I have given an overview below of the work that students will receive feedback on through Google Classroom. There will be further detail about the tasks on Doodle.

I believe that the new systems will support student learning and will also be helpful to us as teachers. I will give further updates over the next few weeks and if you have any questions about any aspects of remote learning please do let me know through remotelarning@phs.cheshire.sch.uk.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Kind Regards

Matthew Dean

Deputy Headteacher

Year 8 assessed tasks overview

English	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Storm at Sea Description</u> <i>Write a 200 word description of a storm at sea. Focus on creating a sense of action and destruction.</i>• <u>Slavery & Prospero Newspaper</u> <i>Imagine that you are investigating slavery on the island. Write a report to your readers in England about the treatment of both Ariel and Caliban.</i>
Maths	<u>Tasks relating to:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Equations
Science	<u>Tasks relating to:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Light• The body
RS	Martin Luther King Speech
History	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read interpretations 1 and 2, they both give different reasons why the Chartists failed. Explain what the main difference is. You must use details from the interpretations to explain your answer. (4 marks).• How far do you agree with the view in interpretation 1 about why the Chartists failed? Use the interpretations and your own knowledge to explain your answer (12 marks).
Geography	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Knowledge quiz• Globalisation 6 mark exam question
Drama	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scripting from a stimulus• Watching and evaluating professional theatre• Designing for a script (set, lighting, costume or sound)
Music	<u>Listening Exercise - Stir It Up</u> https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FFNuhl1wHxo Answer the following questions. <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Describe the bass line?2. Name a percussion instrument that you can hear and what or when (which beat) it is playing?3. What beats of the bar are emphasised by the keyboard?4. Describe what the backing vocalists are doing?5. What is the tempo of this extract?6. What is the name given to this style of music?

French	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tangled translation about family and interests• For sale poster for your dream house
Spanish	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reading comprehension tasks on holidays• A writing task on holidays