

**The Dorcan Academy**

St. Paul's Drive  
Swindon SN3 5DA

Telephone: 01793 525231

Facsimile: 01793 431461

Email: [enquiries@dorcan.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@dorcan.co.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs S Bareham MBA GRSM

08 January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

I trust you are all keeping safe and well. We fully appreciate the anxiety and impact this current lockdown has had for all individuals. As you will be aware, as a school we were planning for an 18th January return until the Prime Minister's announcement late Monday evening. Therefore, our teachers spent considerable time planning for next week's lessons prior to this announcement.

In planning to move forward we also had to consider the complexities when the government has placed an expectation for both face to face and online learning to take place. During the previous lockdown we listened extensively to both parents and students, and to try and find the balance proved very difficult. We have spent a lot of time over the last few months further upskilling our teachers in the provision of remote learning; whilst this means the lesson may not be a live lesson it will be a timetabled session with an expectation for work to be handed in and feedback where relevant also. The functionality of *Show My Homework* has improved significantly since the previous lockdown as well – so hopefully this will help support you as parents with home education.

This does not mean that live lessons will not occur; however, during this half term the plan is to use remote learning which has been carefully considered and will be carefully monitored.

Next week, your child will follow their existing timetable (which can be seen in their link book – next week is week B); however, from the 18<sup>th</sup> of January we will begin a system where you will receive a daily communication as to the subjects to be studied, a brief overview and location of resources for that day. This way we will be able to ensure the balances that we all sought during the last lockdown occur.

We envisage that there will be either 3 or 4 remote lessons a day uploaded to Show My Homework ([www.satchelone](http://www.satchelone.com)), with an expectation for each lesson to last approximately 1 hour.

I have included below some guidance if your child does not have access through a laptop, tablet or smart phone, but may be in possession of a games console. This may also be a way to support multiple children in the same household.

/continued

The key details are as follows:

**Xbox**

1. Plug a keyboard into the Xbox USB slot.
2. Go to my games and apps.
3. Find and select Microsoft Edge.
4. Navigate to your online learning platform.

**PlayStation**

1. Identify the PlayStation internet browser icon (WWW with dots around it).
2. Press the PlayStation logo on the controller.
3. Go to the library and find options for games and applications.
4. Go to applications and you will find the internet browser.
5. Navigate to your online learning platform and log in as usual.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any further concerns through [enquiries@dorcan.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@dorcan.co.uk).

Yours sincerely

Mr L Morgans  
Deputy Headteacher