



25<sup>th</sup> January 2021

**Iceni Academy**  
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Principal: Mrs Lesley Hogg



Dear Parent/Carer

I hope that this letter finds both you and your loved ones well.

I thought that I would write to you to catch up on how things are going and to let you know of a couple of things that are coming up shortly. Students in the academy continue to work hard, and staff are proud that we have been able to do our bit to support our nation's key workers as they continue to keep the country safe and well. Online lessons are running smoothly, and engagement remains at the same high levels, as it was when we started. This is due in no small part to the continued efforts of our teachers to deliver quality provision through live Teams lessons, for which I am sure we are all grateful. We have noticed sometimes, that students are signing in, getting their registration mark, and then not engaging in the lesson. This may be down to shyness, but if students are asked a direct question, as they would be in class, teachers would expect a response, either on their mic, or in the chat function. Please do let your child know that it is important that they stay on the lesson for the duration of the class, to gain the maximum benefit of the lesson. As we wait to hear from the government this week in regards to how much longer we will be operating remotely, students need to continue to engage in their lessons, to ensure good progress.

With all this online learning, there also comes a slight negative; the amount of time spent in front of a screen. This is necessary to some degree, but I feel that it would be nice to have some time learning away from devices, and so I have decided that this coming Friday will be a screen-free day. Miss Staniforth will be setting work for students to engage in away from the internet. I hope that this will give students the opportunity to concentrate on developing their English knowledge and skills, using the good old-fashioned medium of pen and paper!

I have just received news from NCC that they will be donating a small additional number of laptops for the Academy, which will hopefully be arriving before the end of the week. As our remote learning offer is based around live lessons, I would like to look at getting these devices to students who currently have to share a device with a sibling, so are unable to access lessons at the time they go out. If your children are sharing a device, could you please drop an email to our new Assistant Principal, Mr Carter, at [adam.carter@iceni.atrust.org.uk](mailto:adam.carter@iceni.atrust.org.uk) who will deal with these requests. I understand that some children are accessing lessons on the phones, and even their games consoles, which although is not ideal, are still getting the benefit of live teaching. These will form the next group to receive devices as and when they become available.

Finally, I would love to share the good work that our students have been doing whilst away from the academy. If you have a good example of this, that you would be happy to let us share on social media or our website, please forward to [office@iceni.atrust.org.uk](mailto:office@iceni.atrust.org.uk)

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Hogg'.

Lesley Hogg  
Principal