



Using the Webcam for School Lessons

Information for Parents and Pupils

As the Covid pandemic continues, the reality is that on-line lessons are something that will be around for a little while longer. Within Oasis, we are looking at ways of making these lessons better and more effective.

Up until now the webcams for lessons have been switched off by our IT Teams, only allowing the teacher to be seen on the screen, but we realise how important it is for pupils to be able to see their friends and learn from each other. It is also useful for the teacher to be able to see the students they are teaching to check for engagement and gauge understanding of learning in order to be able to effectively respond.

From Monday 14th December we will therefore be piloting having the webcams switched on to see if this improves the lesson experience and helps our pupils connect better with the teacher and each other. However, having the camera on has the potential to create some concerns and so we would ask that you follow these few guidelines to reduce them:

- Ensure that the background seen on the screen is the blurred background option on Teams
- Do not watch the lesson in the bedroom – but in a more communal space;
- Pupils wear their daytime clothes, not sleep wear;
- Let everyone else in the house know that the camera is switched on to avoid any embarrassing ‘walk-in’ episodes;
- Only the pupil from the class should appear in the screen, please keep any brothers or sisters (aunts or uncles etc.) out of shot.
- No screenshots should be taken of online learning sessions

The ability for the pupil to record the lesson or communicate outside of the group chat with an individual child will still be switched off. The teacher will apply the sanctions in the academy behaviour policy if a student demonstrates inappropriate behaviour.

Teaching on-line is new to everyone, and we are trying to make the experience as effective as it can be, but nothing is as good as being back in the classroom. Hopefully we will be able to do this again soon. If you want to discuss this with a member of the Academy Leadership team please email your Academy.