

Belong . . .
Believe . . .
Achieve . . .



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Headteacher: Mr J Hicks

Chair of Governors: Mr G Bryce

21st January 2021

Dear Parent / Carer

Over the last round of Governors meetings Blended Learning/Digital Learning has been an important part of the discussions. The Governors are committed to ensuring all pupils are engaging in the digital space and are feeling confident and motivated to be learning online whilst they are not in the physical school environment.

We know that the support parents can offer their children can make a significant difference to the level of engagement. The governors have received feedback, including from those who are parents on the governing body that many parents don't feel equipped to always provide this due to limited knowledge of the technology the children are using. The shift to online learning has been a steep learning curve for many and the technology continues to evolve.

As a governing body and as parents we would like to offer parents and carers some support and help with this.

We will be setting up weekly 1 hour **Digital Support sessions** on **Zoom** for all parents and carers. These sessions will be run by 2 of the parents in the governing body and they will feedback any queries or issues to the school. These sessions will be an opportunity to ask questions, share ideas and will also provide parents with an overview of the technology the children are using. The sessions will be informal and there will be no expectation upon anyone to speak or engage if they are not comfortable doing so.

The sessions will take place on **Tuesdays** between **7-8pm**, commencing **Tuesday 26th January**.

In the first session parents will get an update on the current guidance around safeguarding online and an overview of Google Classrooms and Google Meet which are the 2 key platforms the children are using. There will be lots of opportunity for questions and sharing ideas and what others have learnt already – so even if you understand how the software works please come along and share with other parents. You may have invaluable tips to pass on!

The second session will pick up any questions from session 1 that weren't answered during the session and will then look at ClassCharts and provide some basics around how you can keep your children safe online.

The sessions going forward after that will be designed based on the feedback and needs of parents.

The zoom details for the sessions are as follows:

Meeting ID: 91778319453

Password: 838925

Or click the link below

<https://zoom.us/j/91778319453?pwd=Mkk4d2lyVm1kM1M2YVY5UUsrc2Rxdz09>

I hope you will join us on Tuesday.

Lucie Thomas - governor1@islwynhigh.org

Kirstie Moons - governor2@islwynhigh.org

Governing Body of Islwyn High School