

16th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Digital Learning at Goodwin Academy

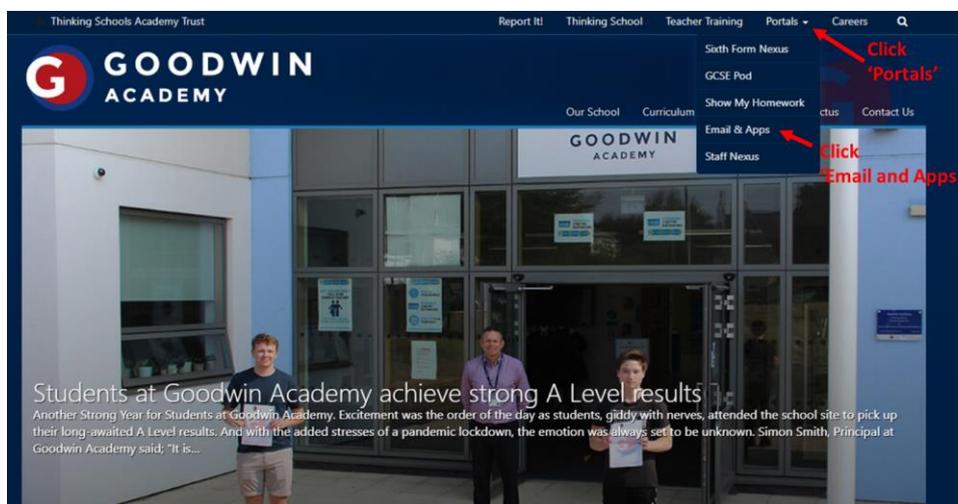
I hope that you are well and keeping safe at this time. During lockdown, the students of Goodwin Academy learnt how to use MS Teams as the main platform for accessing their learning. Over the summer our IT department have worked to make MS Teams fully functional enabling all of the available features.

During September, students will receive training on the skills they need, as well as on the behaviours we expect, for good digital citizenship.

We will no longer use Show My Homework and all home learning will be in the MS Teams digital classrooms.

Should we go into lockdown again, we will immediately use MS Teams to provide live learning, but with the added benefits of the full digital classroom experience.

Students log into MS Teams using their school username and password. They can access MS Teams on a computer through MS 365 or via the school website.



Students can also access MS Teams on their mobile device by downloading the free MS Teams app and logging in using their school username and password.

To support your child with this change, it would be helpful if you could find the time (approximately 30 minutes) to take part in a workshop created for parents by Microsoft:



1. Go to <https://tablet-academy.com/>
2. Click access free online courses and login with a Google or Microsoft account.
3. Scroll down and you will see a course called Microsoft Teams- A guide for Parents to Support Home Learning, which has information and demonstrations of the different features in Teams. You can click on this and work through the reading and video clips.

In due course, we will be providing you with additional tools you can use to track your child's engagement with home learning, and indeed remote learning should we need to go into another period of lockdown.

Understanding challenges students face whilst learning from home

I would also like to ask you to take part in a brief survey to help us understand more about how your child is adapting as we begin to use digital learning both within the classroom and from home.

Understandably the recent months have seen our schools adapt, change and develop their teaching by embracing online teaching, digital classes and remote learning. Having spoken to parents and pupils recently I have heard feedback on the different ways families are engaging and we are constantly looking for ways to support you more.

The survey is very brief and takes less than 10 minutes to complete and is designed to gather information on how pupils are accessing and engaging with learning and will therefore not be used to judge or grade your child. Your feedback will allow us evaluate the effectiveness of home learning and to develop our offering or give support and additional help where possible.

Please follow this link to complete the survey before **Monday 21st September 2020**.

[Click here to complete the survey](#)

We are continually refining our digital strategy, which we believe will help students stay safe online, gain valuable life skills and give them the experience needed to continue developing as learners. The information you provide today will go towards us developing this strategy and feedback on the areas you think are important.

Thank you for providing your feedback. We appreciate the time you have taken and will actively use it to improve our digital learning.

May I also take this opportunity to welcome the parents of our new Year 7 cohort to Goodwin Academy.

Yours Faithfully

Rachael Moon
Assistant Principal (Teaching and Learning)