

Dear Parent/Guardian

We are aware of incidents of 'Zoom bombing' which have taken place recently. 'Zoom bombing' is when uninvited guests join a Zoom. This could occur if a student from a teacher's class shares the Zoom invitation. The incidents that took place have been thoroughly investigated and dealt with. It is regrettable that a small number of students have decided to share their Zoom invitations, especially as it goes against the spirit of what we are doing in difficult circumstances to ensure that our students continue to access a quality education. Please be assured that we will apply the toughest sanctions to any student that has been identified as sharing any Zoom invitations and we will work with the police on any incidents that we need to investigate. We expect the highest standards of behaviour and safety when working remotely.

We have taken further steps to ensure that we mitigate against such dangers whilst Zooming. We use Zoom's educational package which allows us to identify all users who have attended a Zoom call. This includes identifying the IP address and location of all participants on the call.

Staff have been asked to register all students one by one as they admit them to the call. Students are expected to use their full name as their profile name for example 'John Smith'. Staff will verify that the name matches the identity of the actual student on the call. Staff will not be able to admit students who they are unable to identify. To support with this, it is important that all students have their microphone connected. Staff can remove any student on the call at any point and they can 'lockdown' their meeting after registration so that nobody else can enter the meeting. All Zoom lessons are recorded so that we have evidence if we need to investigate a breach of safety.

The Educational license also allows us to apply default security settings to all accounts on our license. This helps to keep our live lessons safe and prevents students from having the ability to act in a disruptive or unsafe way.

We would like to thank parents for your work in supporting our remote education. We would also like to thank you for your support in ensuring that our remote education remains safe.

Kind regards,

Mr G Calwell
Assistant Headteacher