

**Headteacher:** Mr J Parr BA Hons

2<sup>nd</sup> April 2020

Dear parents/carers,

This period has been challenging for everyone and we hope you are all adjusting well in these difficult circumstances.

We wanted to get in touch with all our parents/carers keeping their children at home to let you know about our approach to home learning and what we're expecting from you and your children.

Our amazing staff have been working hard to make sure we can continue to provide education for your children. As a reminder, our current approach is:

- Work will appear on GO 4 Schools (GO4S) in the format '*dd/mm/yy Title Class*'
- Any instructions on GO4S will be brief, with more detailed instructions contained in documents and files stored on SharePoint
- For Years 7-9 the teacher will post work to GO4S each day for periods 1,2,4,5, so this is 4 hours a day of work
- For years 10-11 the teacher will post work to GO4S each day, so this is 5 hours a day of work
- Work will be posted for normal **term-time days only** (where staffing allows)
- There is no expectation that all work is printed or returned, but do keep a record of work completed (this can be written in their book, recorded on paper or recorded digitally)
- Teachers will be setting some tasks that may require the completion of an online quiz, we will use this to try and judge progress on work covered so far, so we know what to set next or pick up on when we return to school

The individual subject curriculum plans are currently being updated and can be found [here](#), but we hope you can understand that we can't deliver the same sort of education we do when the school is fully open, but your children won't miss out by not being in school at the moment. We've tried to keep everyone's workloads – both students learning at home and those in school – comparable, appropriate and realistic during this turbulent period. As students work at different rates it is difficult to get the quantity of work just right. This will settle down over time as we respond to your feedback. They may tell you that they are overloaded or that they have finished all the work after just 10 minutes. We can assure you that this happens in class too, unfortunately we are not there to refocus, repackage and intervene as required and some frustration is likely all round. Do seek advice from the class teacher if unsure. We are working on some additional (entirely optional) extension tasks for students who do not feel that they have sufficient work to keep them occupied. We will send out details of these at a later date.

Please don't worry about your children getting behind with learning. Everyone's in the same boat, and when things get back to normal we will make sure we get everyone back on track. We will continue to review how we deliver home learning, so we will let you know if we decide to change our approach.

If you have any concerns about helping your child learn or you need any other support from the school, please let us know by [contacting the Head of Department](#) for the subject concerned. The BBC have

provided some [useful advice](#) and guidance about working from home and will be providing some daily lessons for those who feel that the work set is too little. We would recommend the daily workout from [Joe Wicks](#) too, if you feel that it is appropriate of course.

If you're finding it hard at home with your child and are struggling to cope, call [Family Lives](#) for free, confidential advice on **0808 800 2222**.

If you're worried about the safety of another child in our community, call the [NSPCC](#) on **0808 800 5000**. Or call the police on **999** if you think a child is in immediate danger.

We are extremely grateful for all the support we have received so far from the school community.

Kind regards,

Dr Wood

Deputy Headteacher