



Dear pupils,

I hope you are all managing with the arrangements for remote learning and wanted to write to you to update you on some important things happening in school and to check in on you all.

Firstly can I say thank you for all of the hard work you are doing, whether you are at home or still attending school, I know you are going to a great effort to stay on top of the work your teachers are setting for you. Even if you do not have GCSEs or A Levels this year it's really important that you keep up with the work being set so that you do not fall behind. I have given your parents some tips on how to help you in the newsletter I sent them last week which is on the school website.

We are currently reviewing our remote learning plans to make sure they work for all of you as well as possible. From this week teachers will be making calls home to check in on you and to offer help with any problems you might be having with the work you have been set. Plans may change over the weeks ahead and we will contact you and your parents to explain what is changing if they do, so keep checking your emails.

The newsletter on the website also has contact details for your Head of Year and for the teachers in charge of each subject area so please feel free to email a teacher if you are struggling to understand anything or struggling to access the information you need.

Well done to all of the Year 10 and 12 pupils who have been sitting vocational exams in school this week. All of you who I spoke to coming out of the exam were very positive about how they went. I am glad you had the opportunity to show all that you have learned and I'm very proud of the way you handled the exams amid all the uncertainty.

We are in the process of planning an online version of the Year 9 Options evening which is due to take place on 4 March. This event and other events such as Parents' Evening will still go ahead online so that we can help you and your parents to make the right choices for you and to get the support you need.

Please keep working hard. It is so important that you stay on top of all the work that your teachers set so that you do not fall behind. In the weeks and months ahead we will get back to normal but you will not be able to get this time back. So make sure that when you go back to your normal studies in school, you have lots to show for your efforts over these weeks and remember always just to do your best, even if you struggle to understand something.

One final request – this can be a really tough time for your parents and carers as they try to support you while trying to keep on top of other responsibilities like work, looking after younger children and caring for your needs as well as your education. Please do all you can to help them out – doing the dishes, tidying up, not arguing, making a cup of tea! These little things can go a long way to help everyone get through a very stressful time. You are fantastic young people so I know that you will do all you can to help.

Keep going,

Mr Gritton



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