



25 March 2020

Dear Parents, Carers and Guardians

Since I last wrote to you last week about the closure of the Academy there have been further Government announcements that support the need to keep social distance from one another to reduce the spread of the Coronavirus. The advice to remain at home at all times, with a very small number of exceptions, is a challenge for us all but will hopefully lead to better times ahead.

We are now at the end of day three of remote learning and as expected, it has not been without some teething troubles. Some of the learning platforms that we use, such as Doodle and Mathswatch, have experienced some operational difficulties do to the sheer number of students accessing them at any one time. I expect that this will ease in the coming days as they bring on additional capacity. Just as a reminder, your child is being set work via the homework function Go 4 Schools and there should be enough work set to keep your child going for that subject for the week. We are working on the basis that if there are 2 hour long lessons of a subject in a normal week there will be two learning activities of around 30 minutes each to complete. One of the activities will be on an online learning platform like Doodle as the teacher can see if the activity has been completed and make a note of the marks. Students are welcome to contact their teachers if there is something that they don't understand but please remember that the response may not be instant. If you have any concerns about the remote learning please let your child's form tutor know.

We know that it is difficult for families to manage remote learning and to keep pre teens and teenagers focused on learning. There are some resources on our website that could help - many of which are fun activities; we will add more to this when we can. We know that some students are finding it difficult to access the work and we are working with individual families to address this. We have some helpful guidance about how parents can help with remote learning for your information. [Click here](#)

We have been working to provide a solution to free school meals during the period of closure and have found a way of supplying Tesco vouchers to those families eligible for free school meals. These vouchers should have been emailed to parents today. Please be aware that there are some scam emails and fake Facebook messages stating that 'As schools will be closing, if you're entitled to free school meals, please send your bank details and we'll make sure you're supported'. We can confirm that this is a scam email and is not official. We urge parents that if you receive any emails like this, please do not respond, and delete it immediately. The Tesco vouchers that we are sending will come from the email address registrar@lordgrey.org.uk - this is not a scam. We think that the Government will be announcing further plans about how free school meals will be provided very soon. In the meantime if you have any concerns please let us know.

I would like to thank you for your ongoing support of Lord Grey Academy and for the work that you are doing in supporting your child's learning at home.

Jim Parker
Principal

