



27 April 2020

Dear Parents, Carers and Guardians

Thank you once again for your support with home learning during this period of school closure. It is great to hear lots of positive feedback and to see some of the fantastic work that has been produced at home over the last three school weeks. Proof indeed, that Lord Grey Can!

As we are all aware the Government have announced that the current lockdown measures have been extended and that there will be review of arrangements in just over two weeks time. Despite various stories in the media, we are being told that it is unlikely that schools will fully reopen for some time. If we follow the example of other neighbouring countries, then any reopening will be gradual and will not involve all students at once. We will keep you posted on news as soon as it is available.

Home learning

In the meantime, the home learning process will continue. We are pleased with the level of engagement from the students and we thank you for your encouragement and support. We know that there are still some students who are struggling with the amount of work - if this is the case then please do contact your child's form tutor. Equally if you are finding it difficult to get your child to engage with the learning please let us know, we are here to support. If your child has Special Education Needs (SEN) then there are some specific resources that you might find useful on our website that can be found [here](#).

Free school meals

Many parents have been frustrated by the delay in providing the food shopping vouchers that are being issued instead of accessing free school meals. We hope that the majority of vouchers have now been issued through the new Government central system. We appreciate that many families will be facing serious challenges as the local economy contracts through this period of shutdown. If this is affecting you and you are struggling financially, then please contact us at school.

Wellbeing

It can be difficult to know as a parent how to support a child who is anxious about the pandemic. Some may be worried about the health and wellbeing of their families and friends. They may also be worried about missing their education and falling behind. It is a difficult time for all of us and we all might need support of some kind. We have had a number of students accessing some of the resources that we have on our website that focus on staying positive and managing mental and physical wellbeing. We try and post new materials as regularly as possible. Parents might find them useful too. They can be found [here](#).

School reports

Parents in years 7 to 10 and year 12 will have received the latest progress report through GO 4 Schools. The grades that are on the report were collected at the time that we closed, so they reflect progress up to the end of the spring term. We would normally do some follow up to reports but this is difficult in the current environment. We are aware, for example, that year 7 and year 9 students will not have had a parents evening this year. We are thinking about how we can provide feedback in a different way and we will communicate with you at a later date about this. If you have particular queries about your child's report then please speak to the form tutor in the first instance.

Finally, I would like to say thank you again for your support and kind words of appreciation. These are very difficult times but I have been heartened by how our community has come together to support each other.

Jim Parker
Principal

