



19 January 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and Guardians

I would like to start this letter by saying a huge thank you to you all for your support in this latest lockdown. I know that many of you were filled with dread about the resumption of home learning, but you have risen to the challenge once again and I know that all of my colleagues have appreciated the support you have shown.

I think that this time around we are all a bit more prepared for learning at home. The systems we use are more refined, students are more familiar with what is expected of them and more and more students have now got access to a computer at home. All of this is making home learning more effective. To keep things simple we now have all of the lessons set on our Virtual School which is easily accessed through the Academy website. If there are still difficulties in finding the work then please speak to the form tutor in the first instance. We have introduced a weekly home learning engagement check where teachers will RAG rate how effectively your son or daughter is getting on with home learning. Form tutors will discuss this with you when they make their next welfare check call.

As odd as it may sound, when the vast majority of students are working at home, it is still important that we monitor student attendance. It is important for parents to inform us of illness in the normal way. We can then let teachers and form tutors know, which will mean that you don't get bothered by calls asking why work hasn't been submitted. It is particularly important that we know if your child has had a positive test for Coronavirus.

You will probably have heard that the Government has produced a consultation paper about proposals to award grades to students who were due to be taking public examinations this summer. They are keen to hear the views of students and parents so I would encourage you to respond. I have read the paper and would urge you to not to be put off by some of the more technical questions. I think that even a partial response would be appreciated. The link to the consultation document is [here](#).

We know that being in lockdown and working from home is stressful for students and parents alike. Please remember that staff are on hand to help and support. The first point of contact is the form tutor and as many staff are not working on site everyday it is best to contact them via email if you wish to raise a query. Please remember that our website contains lots of useful advice about a whole range of welfare, wellbeing and safeguarding topics. If you need help or support this would be a good place to start. Our social media feeds are also full of useful information so please make sure you are following us.

Thank you for your ongoing support of Lord Grey Academy.

Yours sincerely

Jim Parker
Principal

