

July 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Earlier this week, Mr Kelly confirmed that from September all students will be grouped by Year Groups, forming 'Horizontal Mentoring Groups'. We will use the mentoring system to support students with their welfare and mental health as well as developing learning opportunities around careers, spiritual, moral, social and cultural aspects of the curriculum; age-related current affairs and student voice. The mentor will be the first port of call for all aspects of pastoral support with students continuing to be led by their Learning Manager and SLT link. Next week, students will receive an email to their Google Account confirming who their mentor will be and which room they will be based in for mentor time; parents/carers will receive a text message to alert them to this email being sent.

Remote Learning

This is the final week when remote learning will be set in Google Classrooms in the way it has been during lockdown. All staff have set enough work to ensure students are fully engaged in learning until the academic year ends on Thursday 16 July 2020. Next week, all students should use the time to ensure they are fully up-to-date and that all tasks have been completed. For the many students who are fully up to date, next week is an extension week and for these students, teachers have set tasks to deepen and extend their learning ahead of the new school year. All staff will be reviewing the work submitted in Google Classrooms; making sure feedback has been provided and praise issued to those whose work has particularly stood out in terms of effort, quality and engagement. The Year 10 face-to-face lessons and the online Google lessons for Year 12 will continue as planned.

Library books

Many students have library books that were issued to them prior to the lockdown and once we reopen a system for safely returning these will be shared with students. Please can all students make sure that they look after these books during the summer break so they can return them in good condition in September. Next week, we will post on the Academy website suggested reading activities that students in Years 7 and 8 might like to engage in during the summer break to maintain their literacy skills.

Mr Kelly will write to all parents/carers next week to give a further update on the plans for September and information regarding the start of term. As we near the end of the summer term, let me take this opportunity to thank you for your overwhelming support during the last 4 months. In unprecedented circumstances, we have - together - continued to put Students First and adapt to the 'new normal' that will be with us all for quite a while to come. Whilst there are still limitations in terms of social distancing, I want to wish all the students a lovely break, when now more than ever some quality 'family time' will be at the heart of their summer.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Day
Vice Principal