

2nd April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you and your families are well.

Thank you to all of you who have contacted me over the last week to thank staff for the work that they are doing to support your children with their home learning and those staff who are keeping the school open and supervising students in school. Thank you also to parents who have given us feedback on how the home learning is going, this has been really useful and has helped inform our plans for home learning after Easter. I appreciate the challenges in balancing work commitments with supervising and motivating your children to complete their home learning and, as previously advised, I would remind you to be realistic in your expectations of your children at this time. Our intent with regards to home learning is to ensure that as much of the curriculum as possible is covered during this period of school closure and for students to maintain their study habits. We fully understand that this cannot realistically replicate their experience in school but we hope that, with your support, we can mitigate the impact on their learning. If you need any support you can contact the school via enquiries@oldfieldschool.com FAO: Parentline and a member of staff will get in touch and provide some guidance for you.

You may have noted that Friday 3rd April was calendared as an inset day. This will not be taking place, therefore teachers will be setting work as normal for tomorrow. Lessons will be suspended over the Easter holiday period, however some work may be set in some subject areas, as would be the case if we were operating normally.

After Easter we will be introducing changes to how the curriculum is delivered and will be moving away from the current timetable for most students. This will be replaced by a timetable which has subjects timetabled at the same time for all Key Stage 3 year groups, this will also be the case for Year 10. Year 12 lessons will continue to follow the current timetable structure. We feel that these changes will facilitate the setting of work by staff and help parents to structure home learning more effectively. We will continue to base the delivery of home learning via Show My Homework as this is the best way to ensure that all students are able to access the work that is set. We will continue to send work packs home for students who cannot access work via SMHW. Year 12 lessons may make use of technology for 'live' lessons but only where we can be sure that all students are able to access this and only the teacher will be on video, students will have audio access only.

Another development after Easter will be the capacity for students to submit work that can be marked and feedback provided by their teachers. Initially the focus will be on Year 10 and 12 but we will develop this into next term.

We also have plans in place to offer a pre–Year 12 course for Year 11 students who have applied to the Sixth Form, to be run during Term 5 and into the start of Term 6. Mr Nash is currently developing this with our Leaders of Learning and Heads of Subject and we will write to Year 11 parents at a later date to provide more detail of this.



The school will be open over Easter to supervise children of key workers, this will be a flexible provision allowing these parents to focus on their work commitments at this time. If you are a key worker and need to make use of this provision please complete the google form that was sent to parents earlier this week. We have the capacity to support key worker parents over Easter and I would encourage you to make use of this provision.

Best wishes and stay safe.

Yours faithfully

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Mr S Mackay Headteacher