

# a school to be proud of



4th February 2021

# Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to update you on some further resources we have produced as a result of recent parent and pupil feedback.

I have attached a link to a summary of our recent questionnaire, and this can be found on our website. We were very reassured to receive such overwhelmingly positive feedback and, in the light of this, we will not be making significant changes to our provision. We will, of course, be using the constructive feedback received to make adjustments where necessary and have already taken action to address concerns. (I have added notes of some key actions to the survey results).

# Learning at home Survey Results

Much of your feedback asked for further clarification on our routines and procedures. To this end, I have attached a summary of how we assess pupils' work and provide feedback. This is a vital aspect of learning during any point in a child's development. It is so important that all pupils engage with teacher feedback and act on the advice and guidance offered. This will often mean revisiting and improving the work they have submitted.

### Assessment and Feedback during Remote Learning

We have also been made aware that some of you would like further guidance on the effective use of "Teams". We did send a help sheet last week (which is on the website) and in addition have asked our Year 8 Senior Ambassadors for help. They are working extremely hard on producing guides and videos for "surviving lockdown". The first of these has been produced by Toby (our Head Boy), which I believe is essential viewing to support both pupils and parents alike!

This is on our website and I have attached the link below:

# how to use teams - YouTube

In addition to this, all of our Senior Ambassadors have been working exceptionally hard to raise awareness of childrens' mental health during this time. They have been particularly pro-active in supporting Year 5 tutor groups with remote input during form time, and are very aware of the difficulties many of their peers may be experiencing.

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We will continue to work with them during lockdown and beyond, as their input and understanding is vital to us. Once all pupils return, we envisage them acting as mentors to supplement the support we will be offering children who are experiencing difficulties with their wellbeing.

To give you an idea of how the Ambassadors are engaging with their peers, I thought you might be interested to see the attached information sheet that has been produced by Willow (our Head Girl), which has been circulated among all our Year 5 tutor groups.

#### Who to talk to

# "Catch up"

I have been asked about our plans for "catching up". We are researching how best to address the issue of so much disruption to our children's education. Any provision that we put in place will be based on best practice and will focus on quality of delivery over the long term. I am also committed to ensuring we support every child's particular needs and take into account both their academic and social and emotional requirements.

We are currently piloting some academic catch up provision for a number of our pupils across all 4 year groups. Starting this week, 12 groups of children will be having additional evening support for English and Maths. This will be delivered by our staff over a 4-week block, and is being trialled with pupils across the ability range. Should this be successful, we plan to offer this opportunity to additional targeted groups of pupils, across more subject areas, both during lockdown and after school fully re-opens.

Much of our attention is now devoted to planning for provision after half term. I have no information as to when some or all of our pupils will return, but certainly believe that this half term holiday should be used for us all to recharge our batteries and relax whenever possible.

I will continue to provide further resources and guidance in response to your feedback. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require further, specific support.

Kind regards

P J Bowers Headteacher