

Good Evening

I hope this e-mail finds you and your families safe and healthy. The new year and continuation of the academic year is upon us and your child once again finds themselves having to learn and be taught in a different way. As stated in my pre- Christmas e-mail I was very impressed with the way that the vast majority adapted to the new way of life in school. The enclosed clip is Mr Mckeowns update on how events have progressed over the last few days.

https://youtu.be/2urcd8wE_S0

The 3 days this week have witnessed all students learning being based around their subject teacher leaving high quality work on Show My Homework. It is important that you both monitor and support your child with the work set. Next Monday 11th January 2021 will realise the start of formal remote learning for all. All lessons will be taught by your child's subject teacher in line with the lesson timings in their planner. The day will start at 8.30am with mentor time going all the way through to period 5 which concludes at 3pm. Each year 8 student will be expected to log on accordingly and attend sessions as if they were in school. If for any reason that they cannot attend as per absence procedures could you contact the academy as soon as possible please. I must state that all instance of not logging on to a lesson have to be and will be followed up in our quest to support you as best as possible. Please support your child ahead of time to ensure that they are fully prepared for a day of lessons.

These times come with amazing challenges and it is important that some form of normality as well as formal education is followed by each year 8 student. The focus of your child's emotional wellbeing is a priority and this form of learning may come with its own challenges. It is therefore vitally important that communication between us is increased irrespective of how minor the issue may be please contact us. Providing all year 8 students with both the best education and emotional support possible is my focus. I will be working diligently along with mentors and subject teachers to ensure that all issues are addressed fully and swiftly.

I am aware that not all year 8 students have the relevant access to laptops or computers. Meetings with senior staff are searching for positive outcomes for all; only today we were made aware of the potential of using x-boxes and play stations to access google classroom thus is the advance times we live in. The intention is that all year 8 students will have access to remote learning in one form or another as soon as possible

I will endeavour to keep communication as regular as possible with the relevant updates and feedback that relates to year 8; I am happy to listen/read your feedback or comments both good or suggestions of areas where we can improve. I reiterate the pursuit of a positive outstanding remote learning experience linked with the appropriate levels of well being support is the target; given the premature end to year 7 and the latest developments year 8 students deserve the best experiences possible.

Once again stay healthy and safe

Regards

Mr Williams