



Trinity School

A Church of England
Academy

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Ms. Jo Hawkin
Headteacher

19th April 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Today marks a week since our 'return' from the Easter holidays. All students should have been set new work to cover the extension of the lockdown period. As we move to a longer time away from face to face lessons, we have developed a different approach for different Key Stages and Year Groups. This is to ensure that key groups keep up to date with learning at the same time as recognising the pressures that students and parents are under during the school closure. There is further information with this letter, however to summarise:

All **Key Stage 3** students (Y7, 8 and 9) should begin working to a modified timetable which will include Maths, English and PE in the morning, followed by subject project work in the afternoon.

Year 10 and 12 should continue to follow their timetable as far as possible, with work set in chunks of an hour each week. Work should be sent back to teachers for checking, although some teachers may send answers with work for immediate self-checking. There may be some online lessons, particularly for students in Year 12, where group sizes are smaller.

Year 13 will be given any work needed to complete the syllabus and then research based work to complement learning prior to further/higher education or apprenticeships. This work will be independent. Students studying BTEC qualifications will continue courses and be set appropriate work.

For **Year 11**, it will depend upon a student's chosen pathway. Once the syllabus is complete, students leaving Trinity School will be given Maths and English to ensure that any exams sat in Autumn, that may be needed to access employment or apprenticeships, are prepared for. Those who wish to join our sixth form will be set work that will help to prepare them for their chosen options, alongside Maths and English.

Please see the separate document sent with this letter for further details and the messages sent by the Sixth Form team last week. Staff are being given advice and training on how to teach using online technology so this may increase as time passes.

The hub for the children of key workers is now in full swing and any students who are attending the hub should remember to bring their set work, as there will opportunities in school to complete it.

As we remain closed, we continue to try to keep the school community alive. Please see the messages on Twitter and regularly check the school website for information. The 'Good News' section on the website includes work sent in by students, ideas to help and support others, including support for the NHS. Some students have been fundraising and there is a link to their Just Giving page, with all the virtual events they plan to do to raise money creatively, some of which include: a scarecrow competition, a 15 second talent show, cutting hair and donating what would have been spent. Please encourage your children to send us the creative things they have been doing, even if this is 'off syllabus.' We would encourage learning in all its forms at this time. You may also like to see the staff 'toilet roll challenge,' or look at pictures of the PPE made by the DT department. Mr. Palmer in his wonder woman mask is particularly entertaining!



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Our new Chaplain, Tim Burdon, started just before the Easter holidays and he has posted an Easter assembly and plans to add some Thought for the Week materials this half term. He is supporting staff with mindfulness and prayer and if any students wish to 'meet' him before our return, there may be opportunities for this in the coming weeks. Other initiatives to support students' wellbeing and coping with home schooling can be found on the website, alongside updated child protection information. If you have any concerns, please contact the year team for support. You may have seen the government's announcements regarding laptops for some students. We have already issued laptops where needed, but here is a reminder to let us know if your child has difficulty accessing work, via the year team.

Pastoral staff continue to make regular contact with some families and have been busy delivering vouchers to students eligible for free school meals. It is worth noting that if you find yourself on Universal Credit during this crisis that you can apply for free school meals. The government has raised the voucher scheme to £15 per child per week. You can find more information by following this link: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

I wanted to reassure parents and students in Year 11 and 13 that we still hope to organise something to mark their leaving. We know that many students have bought prom outfits and we do not want these to go to waste. We have some ideas about how to arrange something at short notice and limited cost. More will follow as soon as we know that we are allowed to go ahead.

In the longer term we are planning how to minimise the effects on learning of the closure for students, focusing on exam year groups first. We have plans to increase teaching hours, where possible, in the sixth form to help to compensate for lost learning and aim to tweak the school day slightly, within the hours that we currently have, in order to create opportunities for extra Year 11 teaching after school. I do hope, however, that we can return before September in some form. The staff and I are missing the daily interaction with students and are looking forward to getting back to the routine of school life. They all wish you well, as do I.

With warmest wishes to all the Trinity Family.

Yours sincerely

Jo Hawkin
Headteacher