



8 January 2021

Rachel Hutchinson
Principal

Dear Parents and Carers

Following what has been one of the most extraordinary and turbulent starts to any New Year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank each one of you for your support and contributions in order that we have been able to deliver our Remote Learning Programme to all Year Groups with minimum disruption to planned learning.

Students across all Years have been incredibly independent in setting themselves up on Teams and actively engaging with their live lessons in such a confident manner. Thank you for the overwhelming supportive emails and such positivity shared across social media sites. I cannot begin to describe how much of an impact this has had on staff morale and has helped to motivate everyone during such difficult times. Please continue to use the Year Group support email address for any remote learning issues in order that these can be resolved as quickly as possible for you.

During this period of remote learning, we are confident that students who engage fully in all remote lessons and work hard will be able continue to make good progress with their learning. Once students are more comfortable and adept at being in the virtual classroom, assignment submissions will be introduced in order for teachers to assess student progress in ways other than questioning in lessons and provide feedback.

We will be giving an additional parental briefing on Thursday, 14 January 2021 in order to launch the Remote Learning Parental and Student survey and to provide any relevant updates at government level.

In the meantime, here are a few updates and reminders:

- I hope that you have found time to listen to the student briefing from Wednesday which can be found on our website. I cannot stress enough how important daily exercise will be throughout this time and encourage students to take a good look at our virtual enrichment offer to support their weekly activities.
- Whilst we are in the virtual classroom and student time on their devices has increased, can I please take this opportunity to remind all parents of the importance of e-safety and of our College expectations on the acceptable use of technology. Please do ensure that you have the necessary safety controls set up at home to support the safe use of the internet and be also vigilant on your child's use of their devices. Our electronic device policy is available on website and this needs to be adhered to whilst in the virtual classroom.
- If your child travels to school on a College bus, you will have received a letter from us regarding the updated arrangements regarding payments. Please do ensure that you have read this carefully.

We appreciate that many of you will face challenges during the national lockdown and we encourage you to keep in contact with the College via the Year Group support email addresses for remote learning, or your child's Tutor if appropriate.

Yours faithfully

Rachel Hutchinson
Principal

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