



Fulford School

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29th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to all of the parents and carers who completed last week's survey. We have also asked for feedback from pupils and school staff. We remain really pleased with the engagement of pupils with their home learning.

Following Wednesday's announcement by the Prime Minister, it is now clear that pupils will not be returning to school until at least 8th March and possibly later. It is important that we listen to feedback, reflect on what we do and adapt where necessary.

As previously shared with you, staff receive weekly training sessions on how to best deliver home learning. We are using feedback, our own experiences and the latest research to develop our offer and provide a wide variety of approaches.

The lesson structures work well. Starting each lesson with a register, welcoming the pupils and setting the scene for learning brings structure to the day.

Meeting as a tutor group twice weekly also brings a structure and normality to the week. This along with the two assemblies that are posted each week, help to support the culture and values of the school and reinforces our core purpose. Please encourage your children to watch the assemblies and reflect on the messages they convey.

We are continuing to provide a combination of direct live teaching (synchronous learning) and where appropriate, augmenting this with written tasks and teaching that is for example recorded (asynchronous). We will always use a method that best suits the teaching of the content and concepts we are delivering.

Pupils should use the time between lessons to consolidate learning, make notes and importantly take a break from screen time. Core PE and Personal Development are being delivered via activities posted on the website. It is important that pupils do take exercise as it supports both their physical and mental health. These lessons are not registered by teachers as PE and PD staff are supervising pupils in school.

The only other lessons that will not be registered by teachers are the designated teacher CPD periods. These occur once each week. The CPD sessions up to half term are Period 5 Wednesday 3rd February and Period 5 Thursday 11th February. These are essential sessions for staff training. The training supports the delivery and development of our home learning model. If a teacher has a non-contact period in the CPD session I have asked them to identify another lesson when a register will not be taken, giving plenty of notice to pupils.

We are continuing with parent evenings. Feedback from year 11 parents has been positive. We will keep these under review. We are also monitoring and reviewing the role of homework. We are minimising it in lower year groups and setting homework where it is essential for older pupils. Again, we are mindful of screen time for pupils and are looking at different ways of delivering homework and interventions and revision for pupils, especially in Key Stage 4 and 5.

Consultation around how teacher assessed grades will be generated this summer closes today. We expect to hear findings from the consultation towards the end of February. We will of course keep you fully informed.

I hope you and your family remain safe and well.

Yours sincerely,



Steve Lewis
Head Teacher



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