



22nd January 2021

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Principal: Siobhan Kent

Dear Parents and Carers,

After three weeks of the lockdown, I hope that you are coping as families and that you are managing to create a routine from our circumstances.

I wanted to start my letter this week by thanking our community. We put a plea out to the community last week for any donations of laptops and devices that families may not be using anymore. We have been blessed with these devices being dropped into school throughout the week, with the support of local champions, which we have been able to prepare and send out to children who didn't have any remote access in their homes. This has been such a display of true Christianity, kindness and love and I can honestly say that it has impacted so wonderfully on our families. We continue to source further devices to support children and enhance their resources in the home.

As part of our Quality Assurance in school, our Senior and Middle Leaders complete checking exercises every week to ensure that the Remote Learning Programme is working as efficiently and rigorously as it should, ultimately providing our students with the best that we can offer during this time. We also feel that it is imperative that we have our work scrutinised by external providers who can benchmark our programmes with other schools. I am delighted to say that our School Improvement Partner and Ofsted Inspector has last week conducted a high-level review of the programme and has been overwhelmingly positive and full of praise for the Remote Learning Programme. I think it's so important that we communicate that to you as parents so that you can feel reassured by the work that we are doing.

As I said last week, the engagement of students in their Remote Learning has been so pleasing. Please remember that our Remote Learning Programme of recorded lessons from their teachers allows them to rework their timetable to suit them at home, go back to previous lessons and learning as well as repeat sections of lessons that they may need a little more time on. Five hours of lessons per day means the students are working very hard to maintain this level of learning in the home. During the Quality Assurance work that we complete over the next couple of weeks, we will be looking in particular at whether the length of the lessons and content are pitched correctly for the students.

We do monitor the engagement of learning each week so that we can pick up where a student may be struggling. If we see that this is happening, we will make sure that your child's Academic Mentor supports and guides them during their phone calls and will also put them in touch with their subject teachers for greater support if necessary. If you wish to raise any concerns too, please remember that you can do that with the Academic Mentor also.

A reminder that there are support materials for Parents and Carers on our website on the following link:
<https://www.sbch.org.uk/welcome-sbcs/parental-communication/coronavirus-covid-19/>



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I wish you a relaxing and happy weekend together. I will write again in a couple of weeks to keep you updated with any developments that there may be, but we are here at any point should you need us.

Take care of each other as always and stay safe.

God bless,

Siobhan Kent
Principal