

23 April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Summer Term

I hope you all had a restful Easter break and welcome to our very first remote summer term!

We've all had to adapt to new ways of working, so I wanted to take the chance to say what an amazing job you're doing supporting your child's wellbeing and learning during this time. It's definitely been a strange and challenging time, so it's understandable if you and your child feel anxious and frustrated at the moment. We're here for you every step of the way as we figure this all out together.

We miss having the students in school, but we must continue to follow the government's guidance to keep everyone in our community safe. So, we're carrying on with remote learning for our students and providing school access provision for our vulnerable students and children of critical workers.

Virtual Learning

Our staff will be setting plenty of tasks for students to get stuck into over the summer term and have been working hard to create educational resources for them whilst they cannot be physically in school. These resources can be found on Show my Homework. We recognise that it is not feasible for many students to complete a full school days' worth of work at home and so have prepared a reduced timetable of lessons.

Our research tells us that offering a reduced number of lessons will allow students to engage and learn more easily. Do remind your child to take breaks away from screens as well, and also make time for having fun and connecting with friends and family.

Through careful consultation, the Anthem and Education Trust have determined that the best format for lesson materials is to provide pre-prepared materials rather than live stream lessons from year 7-11. By offering pre-prepared materials that can be viewed flexibly, we can ensure that students who may not have access to individual devices at home are all able to access the resources provided. These resources are being carefully designed to collect feedback from students interactively and allow teachers to gauge student understanding. This is in line with the Trust's safeguarding policy.

As part of our carefully designed approach to home learning, we will gradually be rolling out lessons and resources using Microsoft Teams. There will be guidance and support offered throughout this process to ensure you and your child are able to access all materials.

Principal Lisa Peterkin



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Whilst we are keen for all of our students to continue their education at this unusual time, our top priority is that all of our families remain safe, happy and feel supported. Please be assured that activities like having conversations, cooking, reading, exercising and spending time together as a family are all of huge benefit to your children. Our staff will be ready in school to support your children in their return to formal education when this crisis is over.

While we can't say yet when we'll be able to open the school fully, rest assured that we'll continue doing our utmost to keep students learning and the school connected.

With Love, Hope and Trust



Lisa Peterkin
Principal

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