



20 April 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you and your families continue to stay well. I know that this may well be a difficult time for some, we have no overall sense of how individual families are being affected but please know we are thinking of you all and hoping that our strong mutual communication will allow us to respond to support students as and when we need to.

I have emailed the students this morning to welcome them back to Term 5. Although today has been a planning day we have sent them the tutor time materials for the week (attached) and suggested they catch up on anything they need to before new work is set tomorrow. We are very grateful for the positive feedback we have had about the adjustments to work before Easter and we will survey parents later this week to be sure that we continue to understand how to manage these circumstance as well as we are able.

Today teachers have been looking at how to adjust the learning for Term 5. Although we are aware there is a plethora of new on-line resources we will continue to take into account our knowledge of our students and our planned learning to see what compliments our needs best. Students will continue to have bespoke work set for them by their teachers. This planning and dialogue is vital.

Equally vital is the mental health and well-being of our students at this time. It is important they maintain routines, keep their contact with learning and their communication with the school community going. We know it won't be the same, we know there will be gaps to catch up. As expert educators our staff will monitor and manage that. However, far more difficult to manage will be students who have disengaged or fallen out of routine and lost motivation. Nationally that may be an issue to address, I have faith that the quality of our community means that our students will be well supported at home by their families and remotely by their pastoral staff. Our teams will be in touch if they have concerns and equally they are there to help if you need it. Please don't hesitate to ask.

I will write in full at the end of the week with more details about the processes for the examination groups and update on other outstanding issues, please do check our information page on the website for all previously released information. In the meantime, welcome back!

Yours sincerely

MS C BARLOW
Headteacher

