



Head Teacher: Mr George Cooper BA (Hons)

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4/5/20

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope this finds you and your family well at this challenging time.

I write to update you on what is happening in relation to forward planning for home learning and to reassure you of the best efforts of all staff in ensuring we provide positive outcomes for our young people during the enforced school closure period.

Firstly, thank you for your sterling support in ensuring our young people are engaging with the digital resources and work set by their teachers. Thank you also for the many kind and supportive messages you have sent via e-mail and Twitter.

I know that staff are working very hard to plan learning for this term and they are keen to provide as many opportunities as possible for pupils to engage. The updated list of digital resources may be found by [clicking here](#).

In addition to providing access to these resources, we have focused on providing work through Show My Homework. Teaching staff are presently reviewing pupils' responses and are planning for the next stage of the term.

We are now in receipt of guidance from East Dunbartonshire Council in relation to taking forward home learning and this has assisted our planning. Over the coming weeks, there will be scheduled support sessions (on Microsoft Teams) for pupils due to move into S4, S5 and S6. These pupils will, in effect, start courses earlier than they would have had there been SQA examinations running. Parents/carers will receive further information later in the week via Group Call. Young people will have access to a schedule of support and relevant access codes. In addition, pupils should be able to access on-line materials for some subjects through the national Scholar programme. The above will allow young people to make a start on their coursework leading to SQA qualifications in 2021.

S1, S2 and S3 pupils will continue to have work set through Show My Homework. We will monitor responses and review approaches accordingly. Please encourage young people to engage through the system. Where you may perceive issues arising, please contact the relevant year head through the office e-mail address.

In addition to the above, teachers have been busy engaging with the revised Scottish Qualifications Agency guidelines in relation to providing estimates due to the cancellation of national examinations this term. Where parents/carers may have any questions regarding this process, again please e-mail the school office.

I am sensitive to the fact that we are operating at a time of unprecedented disruption to society. While the school staff are doing what they can under the circumstances, it would always help us to know your thoughts and to gather ideas for how to ensure the best outcomes for our young people. [Click here](#) to access the survey for parents/carers. Through your responses, we can shape our processes around your needs. In turn, this will mean that effort focuses on what is most effective for our young people.

Should there be an issue in relation to accessing on-line materials due to technology or availability of devices, please contact us and we will endeavour to support immediately.

Later this week, our pupils will receive a survey via Show My Homework. This will provide them with an opportunity to reflect on their present experience and we will follow up their concerns via our Guidance Team. All year heads will be contacting pupils with a message pertinent to their year stage. Again, this will allow parents/carers to connect with the year head should this be appropriate.

Please be assured that we are working hard to mitigate against the present, unique set of circumstances. Our school community is challenged, but it is not broken. I assure you that we, as staff, will do our very best to help both you and our young people through this stage. As the situation develops, our planning will be adapted accordingly.

Thank you again for all of your support and for managing the challenges you face in terms of leading our pupils through this national emergency. If we are able to help in any way, please contact us.

Please take care.

Yours sincerely

George Cooper
Head Teacher

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