

18 April 2020

Dear parents, carers and students

I hope you are all well and staying safe. This week the government announced that the lockdown would continue for at least three more weeks, meaning that schools will remain closed for at least this time. We have spent time over the Easter break reviewing our distance learning curriculum alongside feedback from teachers, students and parents.

As a result, we have decided to change the format of the day to take into account student learning needs and the wellbeing of students, parents and teachers. We have made three main changes:

1. We will only have three timetabled lessons per day which will all be before lunch time. This change is based on feedback from parents that the normal timetable is too long for home learning and asking students to sit on a device for extended periods is not good for mental or physical well-being. There is time included in the new timetable for students to be flexible and independent in how and when they complete their work.
2. A number of lessons that are not taking place at the moment, including PSHE, PE, enrichment and employer projects. We will therefore discontinue the Arbor timetable.
3. For Year 10, Show My Homework tasks will be set weekly so that all students will know the teachers' expectations at the beginning of the week and will not feel like they have an unmanageable number of tasks that need to be completed.

Attached to this email is the UTC timetable that you will be able to use to manage your learning time during this extended lockdown period.

As always we welcome feedback from students and parents about what is and isn't working with the distance learning curriculum so please get in contact with us via the links below and a member of the team will be in touch.

Parents and carers

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=SpSGECNxsU2zJZ7yTke0R3E5G6J3o51FjDAEeDfApgpUN1dYWjNOTUhOS0RYSFdvMIA2VE5SVTIFMi4u>

Students

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=SpSGECNxsU2zJZ7yTke0R3E5G6J3o51FjDAEeDfApgpUMVYVUSUpQMU5XVDFDNkIPMFpNSDRSV1RZQI4u>

Kind regards

Gareth

Gareth Lister  
Deputy Headteacher