

18 April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you all had a restful Easter break and enjoyed the glorious weather. 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.

Timetable

You will receive a separate letter from Gareth Lister, Deputy Headteacher with responsibility for Curriculum, with details of the timetable from Monday 20 April. It is very important that you read this letter as soon as possible.

Our teachers will be setting plenty of tasks for pupils to get stuck into over the summer term. Do remind your child to take breaks away from screens as well, and make time for having fun and connecting with friends and family.

External Examinations – Summer 2020

Students who were due to be sitting examinations this summer will be particularly anxious about their exam grades and will want to know what they should be doing at the moment study-wise. We now have detailed information from the government about how grades will be allocated for A Levels and GCSEs, and we have *some* provisional detail about vocational qualifications (BTECs, CamTechs and so on) with more to follow shortly.

I will be working with subject leaders on Monday and Tuesday to agree the process we will follow at the UTC to allocate grades to students, and I will write to you then with the details. In the meantime, if you wish to read the official guidance about GCSEs and A Levels, I have included a link at the end of this letter*. We would strongly recommend that all students continue with the learning activities that have been set by their teachers, including those in years 11 and 13.

Support and Safeguarding

Remember, if you have any concerns about helping your child learn or you need any other support from the school, please let us know by contacting the relevant teacher. You can find a full list of staff contact details here <https://academytrust.sgscol.ac.uk/media/UTC-Staff-Contact-Directory.pdf>. During lockdown, we appreciate that there will be additional pressures on families and on young people. If your child has any issues at all, they should contact their tutor so we can help. Safeguarding concerns should be directed to safeguarding@berkeleygreenutc.org.uk.

Free School Meals

Free School Meals vouchers will be sent to relevant families this week.

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 pupils learning and the school connected.

With very best wishes

Louise

Louise Davies

Headteacher

* You can find the detailed government guidance about GCSEs and A Levels here:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/878869/Summer_2020_grades_for_GCSE_AS_A_level_EPQ_AEA_in_maths_-_guidance_for_teachers_students_parents_UPDATED_09APR2020.pdf