



## **GCA Parent/Carer Briefing**

Monday 29/6/20

Good morning,

### Return and Recover:

**Year 10:** It was fabulous to welcome year 10 children back last week – wonderful to see and hear them in school – well done to them and to parents and GCA staff for making it happen so smoothly. I'm sending one or two reminders home today to year 10 parents.

### Key Worker/Vulnerable/EHCP Children - School Provision:

**Please note, that it is our intention to close this provision for the summer on Friday 17/7/20.**

We are trying to accommodate as many children as possible, but our resource is finite. Key Workers, please only use this provision if other avenues of child care have proved to be unavailable – the resource is for children where both parents are Key Workers.

Please let us know if you would like your child to use it by contacting [slt@garstangcommunityacademy.com](mailto:slt@garstangcommunityacademy.com).

### Children's work:

Despite many staff now being very involved in the year 10 children returning, we are working really hard to continue to provide, and indeed improve (see below), the great quality work, great feedback and regular encouragement of the last few months. We do our best to monitor the amount, and quality, of work being done by your child, but we really rely on you to do most of that. We're happy to support you, if you want us to make phone calls to your child etc, but please continue to encourage and monitor them at home.

If your child is becoming a bit reluctant, please encourage them to fully engage in the work set over the next 3 weeks so that they feel positive about their engagement going in to the summer and ready for September. Hopefully the things outlined below will help with that.

Progress Leaders are starting to meet with some children (and parents) this week, to put plans in place to make sure they are ready to return to school in September.

This week, we are trying out some live tuition in various areas with a small number of classes – please encourage your child to take part.

We continue to increase the number of recorded/narrated lessons – these are fantastic and will really help to engage children – please give them a nudge to have a look at them.

### Year 10

Head Girl/Boy and prefects process – Zoom interviews for Head Girl/Boy are being scheduled and you will hopefully hear details shortly.



### A Bit of Fun

It's great to see evidence of fabulous lockdown projects, so please keep them coming in, and please keep your contributions to the Lockdown album coming in to Mrs Crowe.

### Safeguarding:

Mental Health – [‘Guidance for parents and carers on supporting children and young people’s mental health and wellbeing during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) pandemic’](#) is well worth a look if you are worried about your child’s mental health – it includes other useful links.

If there are ANY safeguarding issues, please contact us via the **‘Keep me Safe’** button on the school website, or report them to the usual authorities.

Thank you for all your messages of support– they are really well received and are a great encouragement for our hardworking staff. It is really important that they know how appreciative you are – it is very difficult working long, quite isolated, hours and easy to believe that people think that, just because children aren’t in, teachers aren’t working incredibly hard when, very definitely, they are.

Warm wishes

Mr Ashcroft