



## **GCA Parent/Carer Briefing**

Tuesday 2/6/20

Good morning, and welcome back after the half term break – I hope you and your families stayed safe and were able to enjoy the great weather.

### Return and Recover:

**Year 10:** I wrote to year 10 parents yesterday – there is no intention for any children returning (other than vulnerable etc – see below) before 15/6/20, and while we are planning for a 15/6 start, even this is still dependent on a number of factors.

**Other year groups:** There is no likelihood of a return of any sort this academic year – I'm really sorry! So, please, please, please keep encouraging children to engage with the virtual learning – we are hoping to mix it up a little bit during this term.

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

This provision is very much open and being used. Please let us know if you would like your child to use it by contacting [slt@garstangcommunityacademy.com](mailto:slt@garstangcommunityacademy.com).

The DfE Document '[Guidance: Actions for education and childcare settings to prepare for wider opening from 1 June 2020](#)' states 'vulnerable children of all year groups continue to be expected and encouraged to attend educational provision where it is appropriate for them to do so (for children with education health and care (EHC) plans this will be informed by a risk assessment approach)'

Therefore, if this is not the case for vulnerable children, please make sure you have discussed this with Mrs Morgan, and if this is not the case for children on EHC plans, discussions should have taken place with Mrs Davis. Please let us know what we can do to facilitate this.

If your child needs to catch a bus to access the provision, we will need 48 hours to organise this.

### Children's work, and future implications:

Please keep children following the GCA virtual learning programme – this will keep them focussed and will stand them in really good stead against their counterparts nationally who are on average not engaging anything like as well, when this situation does, finally, come to an end.

### Year 10

Head Girl/Boy and prefects process – more information on its way from Mr Millatt very soon.

### Year 7:

Mr Kidd has taken over as Progress Leader for Year 7 from today.

### A Bit of Fun

Please continue to send in your entries and photos for things like the GCA single and album, as well as the Great GCA Bake-off and other Well-being projects.



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.

You should have had a letter from **‘National Online Safety for Parents and Carers’** with information on how to access resources designed to keep families safe online.

Other useful information can be found on <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Support-tools/>

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.

On a final note, I’m sure you have seen numerous disturbing scenes from coastal resorts etc, where social distancing has gone out of the window and, while these are very public and large scale, I believe there have been smaller scale, but significant, occurrences around the Garstang area, including on the Millennium Green, and at the flood barriers. Please, please, please do what you can to encourage your child to continue social distancing in line with Government advice – this will keep the most vulnerable in our society safe and will also bring a return to normal, including full time education for all, that much closer.

Warm wishes, and stay safe

Mr Ashcroft