

20th April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I wanted to take the chance to write and continue to wish people well and welcome everyone to this extraordinary Summer Term at Lytham St Annes High School. I also hope that everyone managed to enjoy the weather over the Easter period and enjoy some time relaxing during these difficult times.

Whilst we are coming to terms with these unprecedented times, it is important that we continue to focus on the most important things, keeping ourselves and each other safe. We are proud of LSA High School being a genuine community school, serving the Fylde coast. As such, we know that we represent this area well and have to be a place where every family will be meeting the challenges of lockdown, school closure and general anxiety in different ways. Therefore, please take from this letter what you need to feel informed about our school.

SCHOOL REOPENING: What do we know?

In reality, we know very little! Schools are closed as a direct instruction from the government and there has been no further information on when this might end. However, like yourselves, we constantly read on social media and in the papers the differing opinions of when schools should re-open. I have already received emails from concerned families about how this will look. Therefore it is important to reiterate the following:

- The school is closed and will remain so until the government tell us to consider reopening.
- When we do reopen, it will be in consultation with the governors, staff and Local Authority.
- We will only open when these parties are confident we can do, keeping everyone as safe as possible.
- When a decision is made, it will be relayed by the school to parents and will be well planned, organised and structured (i.e. there will be period of notice given to parents after any national announcements)
- There are NO plans in place yet, but as soon as we hear more, we will ensure that every precaution, safety measure and risk assessment is completed. LSA is working tirelessly to keep everyone safe and this will not change.

REMOTE LEARNING

I hope everyone enjoyed the excellent Easter Challenges that were provided over the last two weeks. As we enter the Summer Term, our approach to online learning will evolve based on what we are finding out. However there are still key elements that we would ask to be considered:

- There is a lot of work available for all students through Show My Homework.
- We do not expect all students to be online all day, every day.
- We DO expect ALL students to access elements of work during this period of school closure.
- We continue to ask families to work together to ensure that notices are read and that work is attempted and discussed at home. I am sure some parents are amazed at how much your children know!
- If in doubt, everyone should return to school having read a range of different texts, so please keep reading.

DIRECT CONTACT WITH STUDENTS

I am asking a number of staff to start making individual, personal contact with students to see how things are progressing. These may be form tutors, College Leaders or Assistant Headteachers. Some contact will be through the telephone, but we will also be using direct messaging within Show My Homework, so again, please ask your child what is happening, what they are doing and what they have heard from us recently!

WELLBEING

We are well aware that these times are stretching us all. We have created a page on our website with useful tips, hints, resources and signposts to any support that people may need during this period of school closure. Please look at the excellent resource at <https://www.lythamhigh.lancs.sch.uk/parents/support-for-parents-carers-and-students-during-coronavirus>

AND FINALLY...

As the term moves forward, we will write home again with some more examples of amazing work, good news stories and information about remote learning. Thank you again for your support and it is humbling to have so many parents talk so fondly and appreciatively of our brilliant team of staff. Thank you.

Please keep safe and I look forward to seeing you all soon.



Ray Baker
Headteacher