



Moat Community College

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Principal Mr. B Killeen

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Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope that you and your family are safe and well. We are certainly living through very challenging times. We did have some potential good news this week around a possible vaccine. I do hope that this development turns out positively. I'm sure that we would all like to see a possible end to the pandemic.

I want to keep you informed about a number of issues through this letter:

Moat Kitchens

As you may be aware, we did have a positive COVID-19 case amongst one of our kitchen staff this week. Our kitchen staff do wear PPE in the kitchens and try to socially distance. However, as a precaution, we asked them all to stay at home and self-isolate for fourteen days.

Fortunately, we were able to source ready-made food from local suppliers to replace the food that we usually cook ourselves. A huge number of the Moat staff volunteered to serve the food, so that our students would not go hungry. It really is a tribute to our staff, that they are prepared to work so hard to ensure that our students are well cared for.

Remote Learning

When students are asked to stay at home to self-isolate, they are expected to log into their lessons on TEAMS. This is so they do not lose any learning time.

This whole process is new to us and we are learning ourselves how to deliver it effectively. We are making a few changes to our requirements around students being present in lessons remotely:

1. Students should not turn their camera on at any time.
2. When teaching we have found that it is difficult to ask students questions and for students to answer those questions. There is often a time delay and this interrupts the flow of the lesson. This results in a reduction of students' understanding of the concepts being discussed. To address this problem students should be muted when in on-line lessons. They will be mainly listening to the lesson. Students will hear the teacher explaining the concepts and the students in the room asking/answering questions. Students will need to listen very carefully to fully understand what is being taught. This change will also help them to develop the independent learning skills, which are very important when they move onto college or university. If students do have questions these should be posted in the TEAMS chat facility.
3. Parents are welcome to listen to the on-line lesson. However, if you are listening into a lesson, you should let us know that you are doing this. Your son/daughter can do this using the TEAMS chat facility.

Thank you once again for all your support during these extraordinary and difficult times. We will continue to run the school in a safe and effective manner; ensuring that our students are well cared for and well educated.

Yours Faithfully

B Killeen

Mr B Killeen

Principal