



SEATON VALLEY FEDERATION OF SCHOOLS

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Executive Headteacher: John Barnes

13 May 2020

Dear parent/guardian and student

I hope you are well and coping well with lockdown.

I don't think any of us ever expected your final year at middle school to be like this! Can I thank everyone for their efforts whilst we have not been in school.

As I write this letter to you, it is not clear if the students will come back to school before the end of the summer. All the staff would like them to return in some way so that we can mark the ending of their time at middle school but whatever we do will not be the normal events, as we have to follow social distancing rules and keep people safe. We are also not sure if the students will be able to return to lessons either.

So, to help everyone, I thought I would write and share what we are going to do about work, saying goodbye and transition.

Firstly, work. The staff will continue to set work for the pupils to do and we will continue to review this as we are very aware that whatever we provide must support the young person as they move forward with their education. Whatever we decide to do as we move forward, the staff will continue to set work and we expect the young people to engage with and keep doing the work.

Secondly, saying goodbye. The two middle schools will try and organise some form of events so that the ending of the time in middle school is marked. At this moment we do not know what that will be however, when the plans have been finalised Mr Souter and Mrs McSparron will contact you about this.

Thirdly transition. Sadly, we will not be able to do our normal series of transition events due to the current situation. However, we will have a series of online events to pass information on to parents. We will organise visits and other meetings for those vulnerable pupils who need some extra support with transition. We will also look at trying to set up some short and very controlled visits for those parents and pupils who feel they need to visit ACHS. More details will be shared with you at a later stage but if you have any concerns, you will be able to email transition questions to a direct email account we are setting up, which Miss Gannon, the SPL for year 9, will be able to respond to. This will be available to both parents and pupils. The email address will be shared at the beginning of next week.

I realise how important it is to get transition right and we will do our very best to make this happen but it will be very different from previous years. However, the aim will be as always to ensure that the students have the best possible start at ACHS in year 9.

I wish you all the best for the next few weeks please keep safe.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Barnes". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the letter 's'.

John Barnes
Executive Headteacher

