



ABBEY PARK SCHOOL

7th January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Following the Prime Minister's announcement on Monday 4th January, that the UK is now in lockdown, I would like to outline some of the ways of working at Abbey Park School during this period.

Your Child's safety comes first, hence the need for the majority of pupils to stay at home. However, continuation of your child's education is of paramount importance and therefore we intend to provide a high standard of online learning that will enable all pupils to continue learning throughout this lock down period. It is our expectation that all pupils access this learning, so to help support you with your child please see the accompanying document on our remote learning provision. Our teachers, pastoral and support staff remain committed to the pupils of Abbey Park. If you do have any concerns regarding learning or pastoral matters, please do not hesitate to contact the school. The safeguarding document also attached provides you with information and contact details if needed.

We remain open to vulnerable children and children of key workers. Parents need to carefully consider the criteria before requesting a place for their child. If you require a place please e-mail Mrs Stevens stevensk@abbeyparkschool.org.uk. Our system of controls to minimise the risk of transmission of C-19 remain in place and it is essential that pupils continue to observe our rules regarding staying in their bubbles, wearing face masks, sanitising hands and social distancing. The pupils attending will arrive and leave at their usual times through the front of the school.

The DFE had maintained that GCSE exams in the summer of 2021 would still go ahead, so their cancellation at this point has come as a surprise to many, particularly our Year 11 cohort who have been preparing exceptionally well since September. We understand that many Year 11s will be concerned or anxious about how they will be assessed and what this may mean for their future. The Government have announced that GCSE grades will be based on teacher assessment, but we await further guidance on what this will actually entail. I would like to reassure Year 11 that we are here to support them, in continuing to focus on their learning, building towards mock examinations in Term 4. Any revision to the existing dates will be communicated when these decisions have been taken. Qualification are important but so too is the development of knowledge, revision skills and resilience in preparation for Post 16 education and training.

I understand the difficulties and concerns that this lock down may raise for families and therefore as a school community we will continue to work together supporting each other. Following the lock down guidance is essential in keeping everyone as safe as possible and will enable us to look forward to a time when we can reopen Abbey Park fully to all its pupils and staff.

Yours sincerely

Mr Young
Principal



Principal: Mr J Young
Vice Principal: Mrs L Hunter

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