



TRINITY

CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

BELVEDERE

PRINCIPAL:
VICE PRINCIPAL:

MR S GODDEN
MR D PALMER

15th January 2021

Dear Parents & Carers,

I hope this letter finds you and your families well. I am aware that we are sending numerous letters and communications at present, and that this can feel overwhelming, but we are committed to ensuring that you are up-to-date with all relevant information. Contained in this letter are a number of updates and key pieces of information, and I would ask you to read it carefully and act where appropriate.

May I begin, however, by emphasising our position that wellbeing remains our utmost priority. We are all experiencing difficult feelings and emotions as a result of the pandemic; these may be about catching the virus, the Government restrictions, or indeed the challenges with supporting remote education at home. We are all doing the very best we can in the current context, and I thank you for your heroic efforts. Remember, if you need more help or support, please contact us.

Remote Learning Feedback

It is important to note that Government expectations with regards to remote learning have now changed. The school has significantly adjusted its provision and requirements too. Furthermore, we have really valued your feedback with regards to remote learning. As a result of all of these factors, we have now agreed in school a common framework of expectation for this form of provision. This framework has been adapted for you as parents; this allows you to see what has been established internally. The parent version of this document is attached and can also be found on the website [here](#), along with an accompanying video explanation.

A second key adjustment is the addition of new buttons to ClassCharts to help us monitor how pupils are engaging with home learning. This will be checked by departments and pastoral teams to ensure pupils are maintaining expected levels of work and – where required – involvement with live lessons. Please remember that all work is available on ClassCharts and this may also signpost pupils to other platforms including Google Classroom.

During the last lockdown, departmental mailboxes were created so you could contact directly subject staff. These are being re-opened now and direct mail addresses can be found in this week's Triformer.

Additional Data Requests

As stated in my previous letter, the Government announced a number of mobile networks are providing **free data** to pupils so that they can access remote education. This scheme has since been expanded to include **O2** and **Three** Mobile Networks. You can continue to request this by completing this form: <https://forms.gle/JTBo69Hf4LarNjXK8>

The school has also secured a limited number of SIM cards from Vodafone as part of their 'schools.connected' programme. These provide 30GB data for 90 days, and can be used in a mobile device to access the internet or to create a 'hotspot' to connect to a laptop or tablet. Please note, these can only be used in an 'unlocked' mobile device, or one connected to the Vodafone network. Please email pastoral@trinity.bexley.sch.uk if you would like us to send you a Sim card.



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Pupil Illness/Absence

Please continue to follow absence procedures for your child. We are asking you to inform the school of a daily absence if your child is unwell and cannot participate in Remote Learning so that we can share this information with teaching staff. Furthermore, we also ask that you continue to inform the school if your child tests positive for COVID-19 – we are required to report this information to the Local Authority and the DfE (no personal details are shared). In both instances please report via email pastoral@trinity.bexley.sch.uk

Free School Meals

The DfE have reinstated the National Voucher Scheme to provide for pupils in receipt of Free School Meals. This scheme will initially cover the period from Monday 18th January to Friday 12th February. As soon as we are allowed to do so (it may not be until later next week), the school will be ordering vouchers on behalf of eligible families.

Vouchers are valued at £15 per week for each eligible child, and you will receive **one** voucher to cover this period of time, i.e. if you have one child you will receive a £60 voucher (4 weeks x £15).

We are aware that a number of circumstances may have changed over recent weeks, and you can check your eligibility for Free School Meals with a quick and simple check at <https://pps.lgfl.org.uk/>

Year 9 and Year 10 Options programmes

For those pupils currently in Years 8 and 9, a level of curriculum choice becomes available to them as they enter the next academic year. This process starts in February for Year 8 and March for Year 9. More information will follow but with current restrictions in place, the way in which this is managed will have some adjustments to what typically occurs

Years 11, 12 and 13 Examinations

On Wednesday the Secretary of State released the first stage of information surrounding examination processes for this summer's series. There is nothing certain in any of this as his comments (and the responses from Ofqual, the examinations regulator) now move into a consultation phase. This lack of clarity and decision clearly causes anxiety and frustration for all those involved in the examination process – and most acutely for students. Our position remains consistent: whatever the final shape of examinations or grading, there will be some form of centre assessment to help create this summer's qualifications. Therefore it remains essential that students are consistently engaged with remote learning and this will ensure that realistic pathways remain open for Post 16 programmes or Post 18 programmes.

Interim Reports and Parents' Consultation Evenings

The school continues to operate its normal data collections so we can share pupil progress. These may have slight delays due to the technological challenges of working remotely but each year group will still receive a termly interim report. Examination year groups will have more than three progress reports over the year. Years 8 and 9 will have interim reports in advance of their Options programmes to help support decision making.

As noted in previous letters, we now have the ability to run Parents' Consultation Evenings remotely. Next week invites will be sent for the Year 12 Parent Consultation Evening on 25th January and invites just after for Year 9 on 11th March. Unfortunately, due to late changes at the start of term, the Consultation Evening for Year 11 due to take place this week had to be cancelled. This will be rescheduled and further information will follow once this has been arranged.



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Lateral Flow Testing

I'd like to thank parents and families for your support with completing the digital consent form for in-school testing. Over the last week we have had almost 750 responses. This really does enable us to support a safe and efficient return to school when allowed. We have successfully commenced our testing programme for pupils & staff in school, and I thank pupils and staff for their support in enabling this process to run smoothly and efficiently.

We have also provided additional information re: Lateral Flow Testing on our website. This includes a FAQ document, Data Protection Statement and a Privacy Notice. These can be found [here](#).

Have a well-deserved weekend and stay safe.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Simon Godden
Principal