

17th April 2020

Dear Families

I hope you are well and managing to cope as best as you can during this COVID-19 lockdown?

As you have no doubt been hearing from updates from central Government, we will be remaining in lockdown until Ministers and scientific advisors agree on the right time to ease current restrictions.

The lockdown has adversely affected so many different people in our country and across the world but we simply have to have faith in our country's leadership to steer us as safely as possible through these extremely challenging times.

As soon as schools are able to open again, I will share that with you immediately as, no doubt like you, I along with all staff and Governors are keen that we get back to normal and restart Wapping High's positive journey forward again with all the energy we can muster.

In the meantime, it remains crucial that your child is fully committed to making the best of all the online learning activities which their teachers have been sharing with them on platforms such as Google Classroom. We have had some real success using Google Classroom and software such as Century Tech so far but your support in terms of you continuing to challenge your child to engage with these online platforms is absolutely critical.

In terms of partial opening for critical worker family children and children denoted as vulnerable, we continue to maintain an 'on call' staff rota where staff have maintained the offer to provide those children and their families with supervision support if they need it. No one has accessed the provision yet as I feel that we are all understandably taking serious the Government's instruction to 'stay at home'. As I've shared with you in a previous letter, I remain 100% committed to supporting the NHS and front line staff but keeping our students and staff as safe as possible remains my highest priority.

School Staff and Governors continue to meet online to ensure we carry on as best we can in these challenging times. The Senior Team have continued to meet online twice a week throughout the closure period with a continuing focus on assessing how successful our home learning approach is and how we can improve it.

Families should keep looking at the school website which has an updated list of online learning resources for you to use as well as the Google Classroom based approach.

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Finally, we have all been significantly tested by the COVID pandemic and none more so than our country's young people. I am so proud of the vast majority of our Wapping High students who have been working very hard on their Google Classroom tasks and showing real maturity by hitting multiple deadlines whilst setting themselves high expectations of achievement.

I look forward to seeing all our amazing students again soon and thanking them personally for their efforts during this crisis.

I will write to you all again soon with another update in the near future.

My very best wishes to you all

Gary Nelson
Headteacher