



Dear Parents/Carers

Firstly, I hope you and your families are safe and well. I know the last few weeks have been difficult, but by all working together, we are saving lives, ensuring our NHS has the capacity to treat those who are unwell. Although we find ourselves in unprecedented times, I am pleased to welcome students back to the summer term. For at least the next three weeks, school will continue 'virtually' through students accessing work set by teachers via their iPad and the Doodle portal. As the government provides further details about a potential return, we will be sure to share these with you.

The government guidance for parents and carers on the closure of educational settings has been updated with additional information on the resources and support available to help parents educate their children at home. The guidance can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>. The latest guidance and video on hand washing can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>.

Our home school communication is very important to us and I would like to also draw your attention to the latest version of 'Pleckgate News', the now bi-weekly newsletter written to ensure you feel informed and still part of our school community.

Importance of work & learning routines

As we have now commenced the summer term, it is important that students continue to check their Doodle portal using their iPad every day for work and activities to support their learning. Please, where possible spend some time to check that your child has completed their work to the best of their ability, and crucially that they are submitting work back to their teachers. This can be done either through Doodle, or electronically via email (staff name initialsurname@pleckgate.com for example wpatel@pleckgate.com). Additionally, our pastoral team are regularly making phone calls to Parents/Carers to provide advice and guidance and often are able to speak to students about accessing or submitting work. If you feel that your child would benefit from a conversation from their Head of Year please let us know at the email address below.

Year 11 Examination Results

Ofqual has been consulting with schools regarding the awarding of GCSE and equivalent qualifications for this year. It has been confirmed that students will not be required to sit examinations this term, and that an evidence-based quality assured process will replace examinations to award grades. There will still be a national GCSE results day, held on 20th August 2020. However, for those who wish to, there will be an opportunity to sit GCSE examinations in the Autumn term, but this will not be compulsory. We have also sent every Parent/Carer an important post-16 questionnaires to complete and return to school to support your child in the next phase of their education. It is important that you complete and return this as soon as possible.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the trust you have put into the school over the past few years and your ongoing support as we move forward together.

Stay Safe

Mark Cocker
Headteacher

NB: For any further information please contact us at info@pleckgate.com and add the details of your request in the subject line.



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