



Communication and Partnership with Parents and Guardians

Parents and Guardians are asked to keep an eye on our evolving Lockdown Learning 2021 page on the website. This page is an evolving source of information and advice to support parents and pupils across the lockdown period academically, pastorally, and in terms of the co-curriculum. It is also where we will post information about useful events or Lockdown specific community news.

To support with home-school communication, the form tutor and form period remains the key point of contact. Pupils will be greeted each day by their form tutor, who will invite them to turn on their cameras and engage with the group. Building on our experience with Microsoft Teams tutors may also, now, use channels to allow for individual interactions with pupils too. This will help pupils to raise any concerns privately if they wish. Form Tutors and Heads of Year can also use these channels to chat one-to-one with pupils when helpful.

In addition to our normal parent emails and phone calls, form tutors during lockdown will also be making themselves available for booked slots to chat with parents in a similar way to the remote parents' evenings we have run this year. Our intention is that each parent may be able to choose a slot between now and half term should they wish to. Further details will follow.

In addition, we will increase the options for more senior pastoral team contact. Mr Hooper, as Senior Pastoral Lead, and Mrs Ellison, Deputy Head Pastoral, will offer parents the opportunity to book slots with either of them. Again, further details will follow.

At a year group level, the school will also be arranging, during lockdown, a series of weekly virtual Q&A sessions. The plan is for parents of specific year groups to have the opportunity to attend at least one session during lockdown this term. These will be hosted by the Head with relevant Senior Leaders and/or Year Heads, and will typically be run as discussions between those staff over questions submitted in advance by parents. Sessions have already happened for the 5th Year Parents, and a general one about teaching and learning (with FAQs shared via the Lockdown Learning Webpage). Please look out for notification of these events via the bulletin.

It is our hope that via the above enhancements during lockdown, the school can even better support you and your children educationally and pastorally at what we recognise is a challenging time when communication is all the more important than ever.

Mr Johnson (Head)