



24 April 2020

Dear Parent / Carer,

I write today as we reach the end of the first week of the summer term – a very different start to term to all of us I know. I do hope this letter finds you and your family safe and well. In my letter today I hope to give a brief update on a number of areas, both from this week and as we look ahead too.

Showing gratitude to the NHS

At the start of the week I wrote to our students directly. I would like to thank you for encouraging so many of them to send in their personal thank you messages to our local NHS staff. We were able to add these to our 'I heard a Wispa' thank you cards along with a chocolate bar and then send these as part of our first instalment of PPE items to Hull Royal Infirmary and Castle Hill. Not only are there some heart-warming photos of the messages some of our young people sent in, but there are also some lovely photos of staff receiving these at the hospital. We were incredibly touched that they took the time to take these photos and send a letter of thanks to our students when we all know just how much our NHS are doing at this time. I will share this letter with students when I write again to them. If your son / daughter would like to send in their own message and haven't yet done so, please encourage them to get involved. We will be sending another instalment next week and hope this is something we can continue with as we move forward.

Home learning and parental feedback

On Monday, our young people began to embark on their home learning for the new term. We were pleased to launch our subject emails that enable them to ask questions directly to their subject staff, as well as simplifying how they can send key work directly to them. We have now had three school weeks of home learning and we have been very grateful for the level of communication between us and both parents and students. We have been able to answer questions personally and have also been pleased to receive the thanks but also feedback parents have shared. We would now like to invite all parents to provide their feedback as we look to continue to evolve our provision in a way that is realistic and effective within the constraint of remaining remote at this time. To collect your feedback we will email a link to a short survey. If we could ask for returns by Wednesday 29 April please.

As I have said previously, we are very aware of and grateful for your support with home learning. We appreciate the challenges of supporting and encouraging home learning whilst having other responsibilities, be that family, work or other. We continue to try to develop a provision that recognises that one size will rarely fit all. We also know some are beginning to think about how the young people will be supported in their learning when a return to school does come. I of course do not have answers regarding timeframes, however please be assured that as a team we will ensure our young people are fully supported, whether at the start of their school journey, completing exam courses or moving on to sixth form, university or other provision. Having managed this transition to home learning in a very short timeframe, we will also ensure effective plans and support are in place to return when the time does come.

Depending on the age of your son / daughter, you may be beginning to consider different questions about how the lockdown might have affected, or might affect things coming up. I will try to address areas that apply to whole year groups each week as these arise. Please do send any individual questions to us via enquiries@wolfreton.co.uk and the most appropriate person will respond. Not every year group will feature each week, however we will ensure relevant events are updated wherever possible.

Year 8

For those currently in Year 8, you will be aware that we postponed our Y8 Pathways evening earlier in the spring term. This was not due to COVID-19, but to enable us to complete a planned curriculum review that has been taking place this year. Whilst the lockdown did cause us a slight delay finalising our review, we will be in a position to update parents on arrangements for Year 9 within the next fortnight.

Year 10 and Year 12

As part of the Careers Education and Work-related Learning Programme in school, we usually organise one week's work experience for the whole of Year 10 and Year 12 during the summer term. Unfortunately due to the current circumstances we find ourselves in with the Covid-19 outbreak, we have made the decision not to go ahead with work experience for this year.

We know that many young people will be very disappointed that they will not have the opportunity to gain this valuable experience of being in a working environment, however there will be opportunities during the careers programme where they will be working on employability skills, progression and how to bridge that gap between education and employment.

We also know that many parents have already approached employers and completed the self-found forms. We will be contacting all the employers involved to tell them of the decision to cancel work experience for this year. We thank you for your understanding at this time.

Year 11

We have been in touch with all Year 11 students via their student emails and we will continue to communicate with them through these moving forward. Whilst students are not now required to complete formal GCSE exam work, we do believe that continued opportunities to embed their knowledge, understanding and skills are valuable for the future. This week Mrs Taylor (Assistant Headteacher – Sixth Form) has written to our students to update them on the resources staff have prepared to support them in their transition to sixth form, if this is the decision they have made. These resources are found on our Consortium Sixth Form website and can be accessed from the link in her letter.

For young people looking to move on to apprenticeships or other destinations, Mrs Scaife (Careers Leader) and Mrs Iversen (Careers Advisor) continue to provide remote support. Do contact them via enquiries@wolfreton.co.uk if you have any questions.

Finally, we have emailed all of our Year 11 students about returning their personal comments for the Yearbook. We are working on this at this time and it will be available to buy as usual once complete. Please do encourage your son / daughter to check their email and send in their comments to be part of this. We know there has been a lot of communication, however this one is worth a look for as the Yearbook is always a lovely memento for all.

Sixth Form

The Sixth Form team continue to communicate directly with Sixth Form students via their emails. In addition to learning and personal support, the team are available to answer any questions and provide support with progression plans for next year for our Year 13 students.

Years 7 and 9

Whilst there are not specific updates for Year 7 and Year 9 this week, we will provide bespoke updates as events or year group activities approach. Do send in any questions you feel we have not addressed at this time and we will respond to these.

COVID-19 microsite

Since the lockdown began we have all received a lot of information from the widest range of sources. In an attempt to enable easy reference to the range of information we have sent from school, we have now established a COVID-19 microsite within the school website. This can be accessed from the latest news story on the home page, on the 'Information' page, or through the link here:

<https://www.wolfreton.co.uk/page/?title=COVID%2D19+microsite&pid=208>

This website brings together all letters home to parents and carers, as well as information on home learning, information for key workers, information on free school meals and safety and well-being information. The latter may be of particular value as it includes not only links to support on safeguarding your child online, but also links to well-being and mental health support and resources, as well as information from the East Riding on local support.

Celebrating the positives

Finally, we continue to enjoy seeing, hearing and being able to share examples of some of the different learning and creative activities our young people are engaging with at this time. As part of my letter to students we encouraged them to send these in either to subject emails or to home learning. We will continue to share some of these on our Twitter page so please do follow us to enjoy these too.

Can I take this opportunity to send my very best wishes to each of you, our young people and your wider families at this time.

Yours faithfully



Susanne Kukuc
Headteacher