



Lealands
High School
A Specialist Sports College
Aspire Believe Achieve

Lealands High School
Sundon Park Road
Luton
LU3 3AL

17th April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

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Headteacher: Mr J Burridge BA (Hons) PGCE, MA, NPQH

RE: Lealands High School update

I hope that you have all been able to enjoy the good weather during the Easter break and that this letter finds you safe and well.

These continue to be difficult and challenging times and I have no information, as yet, about when schools will re-open for all students. We have been open every week day for the children of critical workers and key vulnerable students. I am grateful to the staff who continued this provision during The Easter holidays and on the Bank Holidays to ensure NHS staff, in particular, could continue to work for all our benefit. We will maintain provision for the children of critical workers and vulnerable pupils who fit the Government's criteria throughout this period of lockdown. However, for the majority of students and staff we must help to minimise the impact of Covid-19 and continue to work from home.

Therefore, lessons will start again on Monday 20th April using the Google Classroom platform and based on our normal school timetable, although to support students and parents there will be some greater flexibility as to when work can be completed as will be outlined by individual teachers. Although students should complete a 'normal school day', we recognise that rigidly sticking to their timetable was proving difficult in some cases. Teachers will be making it clear when work should be completed by and ensuring it is available to do at least by each scheduled lesson time.

Please also be aware that many of our teachers are juggling their work at home with complex family situations including, in some cases, educating their own young children. We very much thank you for your patience and many encouraging messages to date and rest assured, we are all doing our best in these very difficult times.

I have been really encouraged to see both students and staff engaging so positively in remote learning before Easter. It is vital that this continues for all students, and particularly for Year 10 students, who will have less than 12 months remaining before their exams start in 2021, when we return to school. If you have any issues at all in accessing the work at home, then please do let us know via subject teachers and tutors so that we can support you with this.

To encourage students who are working really well online, we have enhanced our reward system with the following additions:-

- Fortnightly, one student from each year group will receive an electronic gift voucher for £10. To qualify for the prize draw, the student needs to have achieved 30 or more STEP points over the two week period. First two week period will run from 20th April – Friday 1st March 5pm. Students receive one STEP Point for each piece of work completed to an acceptable standard.
- A larger half termly draw where any student achieving 60 or more STEP points go into a prize draw for 5 prizes. 1st place £30, 2nd place £20 all other places £10.
- Students will still be able to trade in their STEP points via the online shop and we are currently looking at additional types of rewards we could implement.

Work packs have been made available for any student unable to access on-line learning. These can be organised by contacting Mrs Rust (admin@lealands.luton.sch.uk). Rewards will also be available for those students completing work in this way.

For Year 11 students there is still time to impress their teachers who will be (through an internal moderation process) recommending the grades they should receive which will then be statistically moderated by exam boards. This process is not finalised and there is currently a consultation open until the 29th April which parents and students can respond to at:-

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ofqual-seeks-views-on-gcse-and-a-level-grading-proposals-for-2020>

The government has also made some updates to its guidance for parents about school closures which can be found at:-

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

For those parents in receipt of free school meals for their children, you will be aware of the delays in the Government's system. We have been working hard to get this up and running so that electronic or printed vouchers are delivered to families who need these. These should now be making their way to you, but if not please contact the school via the MyEd app or our admin email address. If your circumstances change during this difficult time, you may find you become eligible for free school meals and applications can be made at any time via the Council's website.

Can I take this opportunity to remind you that we are here to support your wellbeing as well as the learning and wellbeing of your son/daughter(s) and encourage you to keep in contact, to exercise, to maintain routines, especially with your sleep, and to eat a healthy diet. My very best wishes to you all.

Yours sincerely,



Mr John Burridge
Headteacher



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