



Lealands High School

A Specialist Sports College

Aspire Believe Achieve

Lealands High School

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Wednesday 25th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers of Year 10,

I hope that this finds you well and safe.

I wanted to write to you regarding the final week of term and in relation to the coming weeks/months of distanced learning. Your son/daughter approached the final week of school excellently and both Mrs Chin and I are extremely proud in the way they applied themselves during what was a very stressful and unsure period.

We are all in unprecedented times and the whole Lealands community are trying to adapt and adjust as quickly as possible to the new way of schooling. Teachers and students are trying their best to get use to online teaching, and we are all grateful for your support and patience as we iron out initial issues. The feedback so far from staff is that a majority of Year 10 have engaged with their Google Classrooms brilliantly. Thank you for your support to your son/daughter in helping them to do this.

It is absolutely imperative that your son/daughter continue to work towards their GCSEs during this period. We simply will not get this time back next year. Next year will be the most important year of their lives so far and by working independently now, their transition into Year 11 will be made as easy as possible. Your support in tracking the work your son/daughter is doing each day is a vital cog in this process to ensure that progress is made.

I have set up a year group Google Classroom entitled 'Year 10 Bulletin Board'. I will be posting regular announcements and updates. I have enabled student comments in order to keep general communication lines open, however will monitor for correct use and stop if need be. I will also use this forum to continue the pastoral support offered by tutor time and assemblies. This will include activities to help develop their character and mindset, and also continue some careers education to support their growth. It is therefore essential that your son/daughter engages in this. Please could you ensure your son/daughter has signed up for this google classroom as well as their curriculum subjects and monitor

The expectation is that your son/daughter completes their usual school day as closely as possible. They would usually complete 5 lessons a day and that is what they should continue doing. The work will be posted onto a Google Classroom that your son/daughter should have access to. You can find their timetable on Epraise, making this easier to track. If you have not got the Epraise app yet, please access it as soon as possible. If you need help to log on, please contact me via the contact information at the end of this letter.

Staff will be setting an equivalent amount for work for each lesson that they would have in the week. The expectation of when this should be completed is dependent on the subject area and a deadline date will be shown on the google classroom page. Students should, however, aim to complete work when they would normally have the lesson.

Student work and progress will still be monitored and marked in line with school policies. Students will also be awarded with Independent Learning STEP points by teaching staff for the work they are completing. This will generate milestone awards on Epraise for every 25 STEPs they receive, so you can monitor from home. These rewards will be acknowledged by the school and will be celebrated in some manner once we return to school.

We envisage that there will be a trial period and it may take some time for us as staff to set an appropriate amount of work. Please do let me know if your son/daughter is feeling overwhelmed in the instance that too much work is being set. Similarly, I would like you to let me know if you feel that there is not enough work set.

School work is hugely important, but it is key that students prioritise their wellbeing. With the government's new strict guidance to fight the virus, it is likely that they will be at home for an extended period of time. Here are a few tips:

- Try to complete one form of exercise a day, such as a run, walk or cycle. This should be done alone or only with people that you live with. If you can not get out of the house, you can do some exercise at home, perhaps running on the spot or steps.
- Work together on a new skill! Help your son/daughter learn to cook something new or learn sign language using youtube. These are skills that may help them in the future!
- Stay in communication with others. Social media and instant messaging can be really positive (for a change). Facetime with friends and make sur that you keep in touch.
- Don't watch too much of the news! It's overwhelming at the moment and can get you down!

Over the coming weeks, staff will be in regular contact with students and yourselves via e-mail to check how things are going, to ensure work is being completed and to try and answer any questions that you may have. If, in the meantime, you require ant information, or have any concern in relation to the amount of work being completed then please do not hesitate to make contact.

Furthermore, if your son/daughter is struggling and need support, they can contact the safeguarding team by emailing myself or one of the staff listed below.

Important Contacts:

- Subject specific information: Class Teacher
- General information: Form Tutor
- Pastoral Matters:
 - Mr White (HoY): whitep@lealands.luton.sch.uk
 - Mrs Chin (PSM): chins@lealands.luton.sch.uk
 - Mr Ward (Deputy Head – Safeguarding): wards@lealands.luton.sch.uk
 - Mr Mason (Assistant Head – Pastoral Link for Year 10): masonk@lealands.luton.sch.uk
 - Mrs Oliver (Senior PSM – Safeguarding): olivers@lealands.luton.sch.uk

Useful links/information:

- Epraise: <https://www.epraise.co.uk/index.php?school=lealands&login=parents>
- GCSEPod: www.gcsepod.com
- BBC Bitesize (GCSE): <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/levels/z98jmp3>
- Hegarty Maths: <https://hegartymaths.com/>

- Educake: <https://www.educake.co.uk/>
- Active Learn: <https://www.pearsonactivelearn.com/app/Home>
- Join The Pod - www.jointhepod.org/students?dm_i=5HV9,6G8W,20HF50,O8J6,1
- Support for Parents and Carers during Corona Virus - https://www.pearson.com/uk/learners.html?utm_source=TS&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=GBEDGN0320COVID

Finally, please remember that the Year 10 team are here for you. If there is anything concerning you, whatsoever and you would like to discuss it with us, please contact us via e-mail and we will endeavour to help the best that we can.

Take care and keep safe,

Mr P. White
Head of Year 10