



Presfield High School & Specialist College

Headteacher: Tony Fay

05/01/2021

Dear Parents/carers,

First of all can I just take the opportunity to thank you for all the kind and supportive messages and emails that have been sent to the school. We do really appreciate your comments. Thank you also for your support as we are phasing those students who wish to continue to attend back to school.

We understand the prospect of another lockdown is a daunting one, however this time we have the benefit of knowing what did and did not work last time. We fully recognise that the unpredictability of the coming days will be very difficult for many of our students. Staff have been working hard and a member of your child's form team should have been in touch today to discuss with you the provision going forward and to establish if you want your child to attend school throughout lockdown.

Whilst we will endeavour to provide the best possible support for all our students, we must ensure we have staffing levels to enable us to do this safely. In the case of limited staffing, we may have to introduce a part time timetable for students. This will enable us to offer a place to as many students who have requested one as possible. Unfortunately, this would mean we have to prioritise students who are children of critical workers and our more vulnerable students being the highest priority.

We will shortly be outlining what the remote learning provision will be like this lockdown. It will differ from last time as we try to support the curriculum offer that students have been working towards and support their well-being. We will also be asking those students at home to join in social activities via virtual means to support wellbeing each day, details to follow when timetables have been finalised.

As a school, we recognise that all our students are unique, and whilst it is often said we are all in the same boat I would say we might all be experiencing the same storm but our boats may well be different. Please do not compare yourself with others and remember we all have good and bad days. We are all unique, some of you may have the time, skills and internet connection to support home learning, and for others this may be more difficult. We will not be handing out any special mentions for parents who after spending all day in work then spend all night cajoling their children to complete another piece of work. Please be kind to yourself and try to avoid too much conflict at home. We would like students to access online learning and complete work set but more so we want students to feel as safe and secure as possible. We want the students to return to school eager to learn and not hate everything to do with education.



Where students are not engaging with our online learning platform we will speak to you and your child to see how we can best support them in accessing and engaging with the online learning platform. We will not be judging you but trying to support your child

We will be offering zoom intervention sessions with our school intervention team. This will enable students to have 1:1 sessions with Mr Bird to support mental health and well being, Ms Tree to support anxiety, well being and anger management, Ms Carney for speech and language, Mr Swash and Ms Saffer for pastoral support , Ms Davies for drawing and talking therapy and of course virtual visits from Wilbur and Phoebe. These session were popular during the first lockdown and if you would like to access some of these sessions please get in touch with Mr Summerfield who will go through the process with you. His email address is ssummerfield@presfieldschool.org.

Today the rest of the school staff have had a lateral flow test and our first couple of students have already had the test. The good news is no positive tests! Attached is a social story (copy on the website) which has been produced to support our students' understanding of the Lateral Flow Test process. Please spend a little time explaining the test to help their understanding. Remember the test is not compulsory and consent forms must be completed if students are to take the test.

Thank you again for your ongoing support during these difficult and turbulent times. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Take care, stay safe and look after yourselves

Tony