



Queen Elizabeth's School

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3rd April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Today marks the end of the Spring term and it certainly has been one that has provided a few more challenges than we anticipated at the start of the term. As always the strength of the QE family has been so evident and we have been very proud of the way in which our students have risen to these challenges.

As we come to the end of our first two weeks of delivering lessons to students online I would like to thank you for all of your continued support and for the feedback that we have received. Please continue to provide feedback as we look to further develop and improve this for next term. One of the developments that students in Year 9 and 10 have seen this week is the introduction of Hegarty Maths. We are confident that this will improve the delivery of the Maths content for all students. If you have any questions related to any of the subject work then please do not hesitate to contact the relevant subject staff using the staff emails that are on the school website.

As a reminder following my message to parents last week, we will set work over the Easter break for students to access. The rationale for this is that we wanted to try and provide some support and structure for students over a time when they are likely to be still required to remain in their homes for the majority of the day. A number of parents have said this would be useful as they are also working from home during this time. We also want to try and retain contact with our students during the whole time of the school closure as this is likely to be for a very extended time. However, we also completely understand that students do need a break and an opportunity to spend time with their families. Therefore, staff will significantly reduce the volume of work set in this period of time and will aim and set some different types of tasks. Students and families can then complete these if they wish during this period of time. The normal way of setting work in line with students timetables will then resume after the planned Easter holiday break.

Given the uncertain situation around when schools will reopen, Wimborne Academy Trust have taken the position that all trips, activities and events scheduled between now and the end of the summer term will be cancelled. If your child was due to attend one of these trips and you have made payment for these the school finance team will be in touch shortly to refund the payment. Due to the large number of trips that were planned for next term this will take some time so please bear with us as we work through these. We know that this news will



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be disappointing for students and where possible we will look to try and rearrange these valuable opportunities when we are back in school.

Families who receive Free School Meals should have received an emailed voucher on Wednesday of this week. If you have not yet received this then please email us on office@queenelizabeths.com to notify us of this and we will follow this up with Dorset Council on your behalf. The vouchers will continue to be issued through the Easter holidays.

The government advice remains that parents and carers should only send their child to school if their work is critical to our response to Covid-19 and there is no one at home to look after them, or it is not safe for them to remain at home. If you are a parent or carer of a child with an EHCP, within one of the vulnerable student groups or you are a critical worker and you require childcare from the week commencing 6th April then please email office@queenelizabeths.com. A member of staff will then make contact with you to try to accommodate your child within one of the Wimborne Academy Trust schools.

When the government made their original statement about school closures they also stated that schools would remain open over the Easter break to provide care for vulnerable and EHCP students. Therefore QE staff will continue to be available to support in any way necessary over the next two weeks.

Continue to stay well and Happy Easter to you all.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'K Boyes'.

Katie Boyes
Headteacher

