

21st April 2020

Dear Families,

Re: COVID-19 Update – 21st April 2020

I hope you all enjoyed the Easter break! We've only been 'back' for two days but already, a lot has been going on. I know that staff have been busily uploading resources onto Show My Homework (SMHW) and students have been accessing these already. I would like to reiterate that all Burton Borough Staff acknowledge and understand the difficulties of home learning so please do contact your small school/subject teacher if there are any issues. Do what you can and do not let it overwhelm you!

Year 11: GCSE 2020 examination results publication date

The publication date for this will be the **20th August 2020**. We will send you information nearer the time on how students will be able to receive/pick up their results. This will of course depend on where we are at nationally with the lockdown and social distancing measures.

Media speculation on schools opening in May

You may have seen or heard that some media outlets have reported that schools may be open from May. This has been rejected by the Department for Education and Education Secretary, Gavin Williamson, in the Daily Coronavirus Briefing on Sunday. We will continue to keep families well-informed of any official guidance we receive as a school.

Reports for all year groups

Due to the unprecedented times in which we find ourselves, we have made some changes to our reporting cycle. We will be sending reports home electronically; please bear with us while we work on this.

Year 9 parents should expect to receive their child's annual report in the **next couple of weeks**. **Annual reports for years 7, 8 and 10** will also be sent electronically over the **next couple of months**. You may find that comments are a little less detailed than you would be used to for an annual report; we hope that you can understand that this is because our teachers are not currently in school teaching your children and so these comments will be based on any work done prior to the closure of schools in March. Following guidance from Ofqual, we will not be sending home any further progress reports for our Year 11 students.

Video conference calling with Microsoft Teams

Video conference calling is now set up for staff and currently being tested by some staff groups. MS Teams is being set up as quickly as possible by the Telford and Wrekin IT team and we are very grateful for this. Once staff are confident in its use and all class groups are set up, we will be able to start inviting students to engage in online video lessons where it is appropriate. More information to follow!

For families who have suggested using Zoom as a platform, we are unfortunately not able to use this as it is not secure. The safety of our students is paramount and with our staff dealing with lots of confidential and sensitive information daily, we cannot risk anything that would compromise this. We really appreciate the suggestions however!

Thank you for your patience – we know that without teacher interaction, learning at home can be tricky and that everyone is doing the best they possibly can.

Continued



Contact with school

Please continue to use the school website contact form for any communication with the school or the emails of staff members who have shared these with you or your child. Communication via Instagram or Twitter may not always be picked up so please refrain from using these methods.

Artwork for Wellbeing Rooms and Hospitals of the Shrewsbury and Telford NHS Trust

Shrewsbury and Telford NHS Trust are looking for students to draw some happy, joyous pictures for them to decorate their wellbeing rooms and hospitals. They are also hoping to create a pebble path of colourful rocks that have been decorated.

If you are interested in contributing a piece of art to our wonderful NHS and want to help lift the spirits of these amazing key workers, please drop your artwork or rock in to school where there will be a box in reception. We would be grateful if this can be done by the **4th May 2020**.

As ever, I hope you are all well and looking after each other.

Best wishes,



Krissi Carter
Principal



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