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15 January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you for all your support of our students as they have been learning 'remotely' this week. We have been very impressed with their commitment, engagement and effort as they learn in such a very different way to normal. We know though that the support and encouragement you are providing is vital and hence want to say 'well done' to parents as well as to our students for the way the school community has adjusted so successfully to new ways of working over the last two weeks.

### **Remote Learning**

Student 'attendance' at the one-line lessons has been exceptionally high, with generally only a very small number of students not joining in. This means that the vast majority of students are able to carry on progressing through the curriculum. Of course, the converse to this is that the small number who are not able to join in risk rapidly falling behind with their education and it is vital that the [contactportal@helsbyhigh.org](mailto:contactportal@helsbyhigh.org) address is used to let us know of any issues which are preventing access to lessons. Once aware we will then do everything we can to help students to be able to connect with their teachers and their friends in lessons.

Thank you for your understanding that, for a variety of reasons, there may be a very small number of occasions when a teacher is not able to lead a 'live' lesson. Rather than re-directing students to another class which may not be in the same position as their own, on these occasions tasks will be set for students to complete which will build upon their previous lessons and still progress their learning despite the teacher's 'absence'.

### **Key Worker and Vulnerable Student Provision**

Please continue to use the [contactportal@helsbyhigh.org](mailto:contactportal@helsbyhigh.org) address for enquiries about our current on-site provision for vulnerable students and the children of key workers.

### **Mass Testing Programme**

This began this week with the testing of staff working in the school building, who will be tested on a weekly basis as per the national programme. Testing of students will begin next week with those attending our key worker and vulnerable student provision in school. Parents of these students will be contacted shortly and provided with further information.

### **Free School Meal Vouchers**

Up until now we have been providing local supermarket vouchers for eligible families in lieu of Free School Meals not being taken in school. From next week, the national voucher scheme has been re-introduced and hence families should look out for an e-mail over the next 7 days from Edenred, the company once again administering the national scheme. This e-mail will provide information on how to redeem and use the weekly vouchers. This e-mail will not come from the school and hence it may be necessary to check 'junk' email folders to locate it.

### **Examinations**

At the time of writing (Friday morning) the promised Ofqual consultation on the awarding of results this summer has not been launched. We will of course provide Year 11 and 13 students and parents with any further information as soon as it is received.

### **Catch-Up Programme**

We will shortly be contacting parents of students who were supposed to be involved in the on-site catch-up programme this term. Following discussion with our providers, they are going to switch this provision on-line and hence this programme will start 'remotely' in the next couple of weeks.

At the end of another intense week of on-line learning, I am sure that our students (and parents) are looking forward to another well-deserved break this weekend. I hope that all of our families keep safe and well and have an enjoyable weekend and we look forward to 'seeing' our students once again at 8.45am on Monday morning.

Best wishes,

Martin Hill  
Headteacher