



Perschore High School

Quality education
for all in a
challenging,
supportive and
safe environment



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Dear Parents / Carers,

I hope this letter finds you and your family well given our current circumstances. I would like to thank those of you who have taken the time to send messages of support for my colleagues and I; they are very much appreciated.

Firstly, I wanted to say thank you for all the time and effort you have put into working with our students during the first week of lockdown. All the teachers have been busy setting work and trying to make it as appropriate as possible for home-learning, but we realise it may not be easy. As teachers, we have years of training and experience, and have the benefit of school routines and systems to help us deliver the curriculum. Whereas, many of you have been thrown in at the deep end with no warning and may be juggling the demands of childcare, as well as trying to do your own jobs from home. We really appreciate every hour you can spend working with our students. 91.2% of students have logged in to ePraise over the last four days, which is very encouraging.

The school closure happened so fast that we had very little time to get all the correct systems in place, so we appreciate there will be some teething problems. We ask that you bear with us as we get more used to this way of working. There will be a few changes introduced over the coming weeks aimed at ensuring things run more smoothly and making it easier for your children to keep up to date with the work being set. This takes time, as before any new systems can be implemented, they need to be rolled out to staff first and this of course, has to be done remotely.

There are a few issues I would like to address at this time:

Weekly Student Bulletin

There are going to be times when for whatever reason, it is just not possible to get everything done, we fully understand that. The most important thing is that throughout this difficult time when the students may be feeling anxious, they feel loved and supported.

With this in mind, I wanted to initiate today a weekly communication with parents/carers to mirror the timing of the attached Student Bulletin, published to students every Monday. You will note its emphasis very much on mental health and wellbeing in today's first issue of the Student Bulletin.

Easter holidays

As per our current arrangements, the school will be open for students of Key Workers and those considered vulnerable using our existing criteria during the Easter holiday, except for the Bank Holidays of Friday 10th April and Monday 13th April. Should your son/daughter need to be in school during the Easter holidays, please email the appropriate House Team by the end of this week.

Teachers will not be setting lesson by lesson work (GCSE & A' Level) nor longer extended learning tasks (Key Stage 3) during this time. Rather some of my colleagues may set a holiday type homework for students in the way they usually would. Students should use the Easter holiday period to catch up on any work previously set they have yet to complete, complete these holiday homework tasks, engage with the activities published in the holiday editions (Issues 2&3) of the Student Bulletin and have a break after what has been quite a stressful last few weeks.

IT access

Further to my email last Thursday, I have been grateful for the response to my request for any old laptops or tablets that are surplus to requirements and gathering dust. My IT Support colleagues have been reconfiguring the ones received during today ready to be sent to those students who need them. Please let me know of any further donations via office@pershore.worcs.sch.uk. **We now have a small stock of reconfigured laptops and expect to receive some more during the week. If your son/daughter can't currently access the work being set because they don't have a suitable device, please email using this address and we will try to help you. It is likely that demand will be higher than supply so we will prioritise loaning this equipment to students in Year 10 as a priority.** The equipment will have to be loaned to students as they are installed with Windows, which is licenced to the school, and students are only able to use this whilst they are registered at Pershore High School.

Foodbank vouchers

Many thanks for your messages of support in relation to my appeal for families who may need foodbank vouchers to get in touch and for all of us, where possible when shopping, to help by donating to the foodbank in your area – these have been much appreciated. A reminder that we can collect any donations for Pershore foodbank in school by dropping them at Reception; I know that demand for their support is high.

I would like to thank you once again for your efforts in helping our students to prevent the spread of the virus and continue with their education from home. Please email your House Team, or the Sixth Form Centre, if there is anything we can do to help you and your children, particularly with the work that is being set.

Yours faithfully,



Phil Hanson
Headteacher