

Dear Parents/Carers

I would like to thank all parents for the kind messages of support we have had this week. You will be aware that we have had one confirmed case of Covid 19 and I am extremely grateful to the response of parents in self isolating students where this was required. I know how difficult this must have been and disappointing for students who were just getting back into the school routine. I am delighted that these students have now returned. I do wish to reassure parents that these decisions are not made lightly and are made on the advice of Public Health England.

This is a difficult time for all of us and we are doing everything we possibly can, at the academy, to continue your child's education, and to make this as an enriching experience as possible despite the current restrictions. Once again, I would like to thank my staff who really are going above and beyond at this time, delivering lessons both in the classroom and remotely. I also appreciate your support in ensuring that your child has a face covering to wear on buses, corridors and communal areas as this is now mandatory except for exempt students and is helping us to keep students and staff safe. We are sending out a wellbeing questionnaire to parents and would appreciate your responses, so we can identify any areas where we need to make any changes. I do hope you and your families continue to stay well.

Stay safe

Mrs C Horrocks
Principal

Teaching and Learning

As students and teachers continue to adapt to the 'new' blended classroom, with some students learning remotely, it is very important that work completed is returned to the teacher for checking. Please help us in ensuring that your child completes any work set in Microsoft TEAMS classes by their teachers.

Each student has been issued with a whiteboard, pen and eraser. It is important that they remember to bring this to each and every lesson. As the teacher cannot move around the room, as they usually would, more questioning will take place in lessons than ever before and the whiteboard is a perfect tool for the teacher to get lots of quick feedback from the students. It is also important that the students take lots of pride in their classwork and maintain high levels of presentation. They must aim to write everything down carefully that they are instructed to and then give each and every task their best shot. Teachers will, at the moment be covering the key topics in each of their subjects, so it is important that they listen carefully and respond positively. Encourage your child to engage in this way of learning so as teacher we can prepare lessons that help them to further progress.

Homework will continue to be set by teachers weekly and this can be viewed on GO4Schools. Lots of the homework we will be setting is to support and develop our students as independent learners. Homework tasks that ask the child to produce a cheat-sheet, flip-cards or notes on the work completed that week will become more common. This is to support our 'low stakes' testing approach to learning. This means that your child may well get regular, smaller mini-assessments set by their teacher, where they can bring along the homework; the cheat-sheet or notes to help them when answering a few questions on the topic of the week. This strategy is designed to help students understand that preparing for assessments leads to greater success, especially longer term.

Microsoft TEAMS

Work for students who are self-isolating is now being placed on your child's TEAMS classes. Log in to RUnify as normal and click on the TEAMS tile. This will take them to their classes. If your child is absent from school, the work for the day should be found in the folders within each individual subject class. Please ask them to complete the work and return to their teachers for checking. Information regarding how to log in has already been discussed with your child during tutor period and an email was sent to parents.

Assessment

CAT Testing

Year 7 Baseline Testing will continue for the next three weeks. These tests are all completed online, and we will be using the data to set GCSE Target Grades. There are three tests to complete, they focus on numeracy, literacy and problem solving and they will be completed at different points across the timetable. If you have any queries concerning the CAT Tests, please contact me at masont@elizabethan.notts.sch.uk

Year 7 Baseline Testing

The Assessment Calendar for the next two weeks is focussing on the completion of Baseline Tests in all faculty areas. This is an opportunity for the teaching staff to identify any gaps in the knowledge of students and to adjust their teaching accordingly. Year 7 students are being taught in mixed ability groups and so none of the data being collected is being used to set students. If you have any queries on the Baseline Tests, please contact me at masont@elizabethan.notts.sch.uk

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club runs every morning from 8.10am until 8.30am in FT1 to provide hot food for children in receipt of free school meals. Students can choose between toast with butter and jam or a ham and cheese toastie.

Lanyards

Students who lose their lanyards, must buy a replacement for 50p from Mrs Whinfrey in the Finance Office.

Stationery

Due to Covid restrictions, teachers are no longer able to hand out and share items such as glue, highlighters and pencil crayons with their classes as they have always done in the past. Whilst not essential equipment, these are all items that students find it useful to have in class to support their learning. Any student who feels they would benefit from having these items but is unable to obtain them should see Ms Withall in her office on the English corridor.

Safeguarding

Do you know what information your children are accessing online? Are they staying safe and not putting themselves at risk? What parents need to know about trolling and online abuse is a recent publication from National Online Safety ... trolling is a form of cyberaggression and can take place on any platform. Whilst many celebrities and influencers tend to be high profile targets on social media, online trolls can direct their aggression at anyone online. They often send abusive or malicious messages, goading others to react and leaving a lasting impact, similar to bullying. The following guide will help trusted adults understand exactly what trolling and online abuse is all about ... click on the link

<https://nationalonlinesafety.com/hub/view/guide/what-parents-need-to-know-about-trolling-online-abuse>

If you are worried about any aspect of your child's behaviour or wellbeing please contact his/her Head of House or you can email safeguarding@elizabethan.notts.sch.uk and a member of the safeguarding team will get back to you

SEND

There is information on a fun family event and sport rental pilot from CP Palsy Sport and Limbpower below, for young people with Cerebral Palsy and associated physical impairments to participate in.

Virtual Challenge Series: CP Palsy Sport and LimbPower have partnered together for the Virtual Challenge Series. We are inviting those with Cerebral Palsy and associated physical impairments and their families to take part in this fun participation event. For each challenge completed, participants will receive a medal for taking part. Participants can set their own target in line with the theme of the challenge.

Following on the first challenge which took place between August and September, attention now turns to the second Challenge which is themed "Time" which will run between 15th October and 1st November.

This could be an opportunity to get yourself a record time covering a distance or if you wanted to aim for a personal best. On the link below we have some sample ideas but is completely up to you which target you would like to set.

For more information please visit - <http://www.cpsport.org/events/the-virtual-challenge-series/>

CP Sport Rental pilot: CP Sport in partnership with design and manufacturing company Quest have launched a brand-new pilot rental service to support people with cerebral palsy and associated impairments. The equipment available to hire will help to enable individuals of all ages and abilities to participate in sport and recreational activity.

We have a range of RaceRunners and Frame Football Frames which can be hired. The frames provide support assistance for users to be upright and walk or run. The great benefit of using these frames is they can make being more active more accessible, and you don't need to be part of a club or group to use them, whether it's going out to the local park or having a kick around and practicing some football skills at home with the family.

For more information please visit - <http://www.cpsport.org/news/latest-news/cp-sport-and-quest-launch-pilot-rental-service/>

CP Sport members receive a discount on hiring the frames. For more information on membership and the list of benefits, please go to – <http://www.cpsport.org/support-us/membership/>

Brilliant Schools

This week you will be receiving an email link to a mental health and wellbeing questionnaire. This questionnaire mirrors the one which all students in Yr7-13 have been asked to complete as part of our Brilliant Schools programme. Please submit your responses via the link in the email by the 9th October.

Reminder – The Art of Being Brilliant Parents Zoom meeting is on Monday 5th October 7-7.45pm. A reminder email with the log in details will be sent this week. You will need the Zoom app on your mobile device or computer in order to access the event.

Covid-19 - guidance for parents

Please ensure you child has sufficient water for the day as the water fountains have been turned off in order to reduce the risk of the transmission of COVID-19.

NHS App information:

<https://www.covid19.nhs.uk/pdf/parents-carers-over16s-factsheet.pdf>

We are aware how worrying it can be if you child is displaying symptoms and how time consuming it can be to get through to some of the advice lines and are hugely grateful for your support in managing this pandemic. If your child develops a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), please keep them at home and use the NHS 111 symptom checker via <https://111.nhs.uk/> which will give you guidance on what your next steps.

If your child is sent home from school following an assessment from a first aider that they are displaying symptoms, please also use the NHS symptom checker above for further guidance.

If the guidance is that your child is advised to be tested for COVID-19, they will need to stay at home for at least 10 days from the first onset of symptoms. They should **not** come back to school during this time even if they start to feel better. If a test result is negative, they may return to school provided they feel well enough to do so. Please let attendance know when your child is expected back in school following a period of self-isolation and negative result

Elizabethan Academy

Bi-Weekly Bulletin

Friday
25 September 2020

If your child should receive a positive test result please email covid@elizabethan.notts.sch.uk to let us know. This email address is manned 7 days a week by members of the Senior Leadership Team who will then follow the PHE/DfE guidance on the next steps.

Please see below for useful factsheet that has been shared with us today by Public Health England:

https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/UKDFE/2020/09/23/file_attachments/1553140/23rd%20September%20-%20PHE%20letter%20to%20parents%20and%20guardians.pdf

Update from the Department of Health and Social Care:

Please follow the link below to see a letter from the Department of Health and Social Care to parents and guardians: when you should book a coronavirus test for your child:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-parents-and-guardians-when-you-should-book-a-coronavirus-test-for-your-child/letter-to-parents-and-guardians-when-you-should-book-a-coronavirus-test-for-your-child>