

3 April 2020



West Kirby Grammar School

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Dear Parents/ Carers,

As the second week of our new way of working draws to a close, I wanted to thank you for your continued support as we enable your children to access their education virtually. I know that staff have worked tirelessly, going above and beyond, to make learning as accessible as possible. I cannot thank them enough for all that they are doing while managing their own home lives simultaneously.

We have had some concerns from parents/carers about the volume of work and keeping on top of it all. Please reassure your children that they should just do what they can in the time available. Adjusting to a whole new way of working is challenging for all of us, so we know that there will be days when not all of the work is completed, or that sometimes deadlines may be missed. For those searching for additional activities, we would encourage students to do research and to read around the topic being studied; there are plenty of online resources available.

Mrs Cliffe has asked me to share the Google Classroom codes for the pastoral activities in case any students have not been able to access them.

Year 7 Pastoral	pcqoi57
Year 8 Pastoral	5qnevc5
Year 9 Pastoral	phjuzi7
Year 10 Pastoral	rh44p3f
Year 11 Pastoral	bw6blkp
Year 12 Pastoral	7iwgt5b
Year 13 Pastoral	lvptgbt

There are also a number of House competitions running at the moment and the codes for these are displayed below:

House Photographic Competition	5mimy75
House Poetry Competition	yxuklau
House Songwriting Competition	t7stdc2

The next two weeks however are the Easter break. Although none of us will be travelling anywhere exciting, I do hope that you find some time to switch off and relax. No work will be set in these two weeks and we would encourage students to find other things to do that do not involve a computer. Staff will be switching off too and there is no expectation that they will be responding to any emails over this period; likewise, the school phone line will not be manned as staff take a break.

If you however have an **urgent safeguarding concern** during this period, please call the Integrated Front Door on the following numbers:

Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm 0151 606 2008

At other times 0151 677 6557

General information is available on the Wirral Children's Safeguarding Partnership website and here you will also find links to other local support groups. <https://www.wirralsafeguarding.co.uk/>

If you need to contact our school safeguarding team, then please use the contact page of the school website, selecting safeguarding concern, or send an email direct to dsl@wkgs.net

The school remains open only for childcare for parents/carers who are keyworkers and who have no adequate home supervision, or for children who have a social worker. Parents/carers should already have confirmed the days that

they require. All Government guidance makes clear that the safest place is at home. Please note that the school is **not open** on **Bank Holiday Monday**. No places have been requested for this day and therefore no staff will be in school. A small number of places have been requested for Good Friday and the school will open on this day to support those families with childcare.

For those who have requested a childcare place please note:

- Students **will not** be working in computer rooms and **will not** have access to a computer. They will be based in the Main School Hall.
- Students must bring their own entertainment each day. This should not involve use of a mobile phone, as we are unable to supervise the sites being accessed.
- Lunch will be available to purchase as Sodexo have kindly agreed to work with limited staff over the Easter holiday.
- Buses will continue to run in the same manner as they have this week.
- The school will be open from 8.30am and will be locked at 4pm.
- Students should arrive and register in the Main School Hall as usual.
- Over this two week period, students are not required to wear school uniform, though they may do so if you wish.

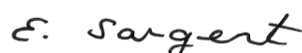
Mr Thomas has asked me to let you know that careers advice and guidance will begin after Easter for Year 12 students. This will take place online and students will be informed by email as appointments are made.

With regards to grading of exams for GCSE and A-levels, today Ofqual have released information on how they will be awarded. Mr Clarke will be writing to parents/carers to share this information.

Finally, Mrs Duffey and Mrs Cliffe have both asked me to share some information with all families that you could find useful. This is attached.

I will next be writing to you after the Easter break; thank you once again for all that you are doing. It is at times like this that we appreciate what a fantastic community we are.

Kind regards



Elaine Sargent
Headteacher