



Dear Parent/Carer

Coronavirus Update

I hope this finds you and your family safe and well at this difficult time. As we become more accustomed to the current lockdown, I wanted to update you on our keyworker and vulnerable student provision as well as share our expectations for remote learning.

Keyworker & Vulnerable Student Provision

We have been very pleased with the effort and behaviour of our Keyworker and Vulnerable students who have been accessing school since last week. If your child is accessing this provision, you need to book a place weekly to provide us with an accurate register and to allow you to make arrangements for different working patterns. The Government has made clear that parents should keep their children at home if they can but that children who have a parent who is a critical worker can go to school if required. Please follow this link to book a place for week commencing 18 January: <https://forms.gle/ukjiam86D8K9dx1EA> and ensure that you have provided proof of your keyworker status to news@gps.hlt.academy so we can update our records. Please note that no confirmation of your place will be provided and remember that students do not need to wear school uniform; instead they should wear appropriate warm and comfortable clothing. Y7 and Y8 students should use the Pindar Road entrance and Y9 to Y11 students use the student entrance. Lateral Flow Testing for this group of students will begin next week and parents / carers are reminded to complete the consent form for this.

Remote Learning

Remote Learning is now in place for all students and is mandatory. As a school we have looked closely at our systems and continue to make improvements but we now need **all** students to engage fully in learning to help them make progress. We have the following expectations:

- students should log on to the Google Classroom at the beginning of every lesson following their usual timetable every day.
- students should work through the material which has been placed in the Classwork tab.
- students should submit any assignments to the teacher by the end of the lesson.
- students should follow all instructions and where necessary use external websites e.g. SAM Learning/Mathswatch to complete tasks as instructed by the teacher.
- teachers are online throughout lessons and available to support and engage students in the Google Classroom stream.
- many teachers are now running live lessons using Google Meet for those students who have given permission (the link remains available on the school website) and it is important that students click on the stream and classwork tabs in the Google Classroom to find out how the member of staff intends to run that lesson.
- several teachers are preparing pre-recorded lessons to support students so students do not need sound on their device.

Moor Lane, Eastfield,
Scarborough YO11 3LW
Tel: 01723 582194

Email: admin@georgepindarschool.org



- teachers are this week logging who has and has not engaged in remote learning and you will receive an email advising you of your child's engagement. If your child is ill and is therefore unable to complete his/her remote learning, please contact school to log the 'absence' so that teachers can be advised of the reason for non-engagement in remote learning on that day.

Across the country schools have made remote learning far more rigorous and effective; it is therefore vital that your child engages fully in this offer. The current lockdown is not a chance for your child to relax during the school day and we expect your child to attend school virtually just as he/she would inside the school building. We appreciate that this is a challenging time for families whilst we are all becoming accustomed to the new expectations. If your child is struggling with any aspect of remote learning, you can find support and guidance here: http://georgepindarschool.org/online_learning/ This link includes a helpful video which reminds your child of how to access their Google Classrooms. Additionally you can phone the school during usual school hours where staff can help with password and other queries.

Safeguarding

This is a difficult time for many families and it is natural that some students may be feeling anxious about the Coronavirus pandemic and this period of remote learning. Please remember that, whilst the school building may be closed to the vast majority of students, our school community is not closed and students can access a variety of support here: <http://georgepindarschool.org/lockdown-worries/> If you would like to speak to a member of staff, please contact reception by phone or by email to news@gps.hlt.academy and you will receive a call.

With the roll-out of the vaccine gathering pace, I do hope that the end of restrictions imposed by COVID is in sight. I appreciate that this time is far from normal and, like you, I am looking forward to the day when our school community is reunited fully. In the meantime, I urge your child to fully engage in remote learning in order to make progress and learn from subject experts. Please stay safe and contact school if we can support your child in any way.

Yours sincerely

LA Welsh

Lesley Welsh
Principal