



THE WHITSTABLE SCHOOL

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13th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

As you will have heard there has been an announcement by the government that some further limited onsite provision will be in place from June 1st. This will be subject to infection rates and the position with regards to the government's other tests.

Our view on this is that there remains nothing practical we can do in preparation for this at the moment until such time as there is more clarity as to how these arrangements are expected to work. We will need to see compelling evidence that we will be able to protect the health and well-being of staff and pupils.

There remains simply too much uncertainty for any of us to begin doing anything else other than to continue with our current focus of supporting vulnerable students and the children of key workers as well as providing online learning materials. We all want to return to our roles as teachers and support staff as quickly as possible, but only when it is safe to do so.

School leaders' approach will be to think, listen, take high quality advice and when we have collectively assured ourselves that we have considered all of the angles - then act. Once circumstances have become clearer and there are sensible, practical and safe steps we can take to facilitate reopening, then we will discuss these with you.

We have been refining the remote learning and have started to incorporate more audio instructions with the online content after surveying pupils and parents. The Progress Leaders are monitoring engagement and the pastoral team are checking in with pupils on a regular basis.

I do hope that you and your family are keeping well during these unprecedented times. Thank you for encouraging your children to positively engage with the learning materials provided by our staff. Please continue to do what you are doing by communicating with us and asking for support if you need it, we have a dedicated email address for all google classroom queries tw_s_googlehelp@swale.at.

I have been enjoying seeing some of the school work in our weekly 'Home Times' newsletter which is a good reference to keep apprised of what the pupils are doing and celebrating their success. Copies are emailed out weekly and available on the school website.

We are all missing having everyone in school, and will do everything we can to support the school fully reopening to students and staff when it is safe to do so.

Yours sincerely

Mrs AM Gibson
Headteacher



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