

BRYANSTON

23 March 2020

Dear parents,

Firstly, thank you for all the messages of support that so many of you have sent to us in this difficult time. Our thoughts are with you, too, because we know how challenging these times are for you as well.

I wanted to write to clarify what our expectations are of staff and pupils, in terms of teaching, during this week, the last one of the Spring Term. I have asked all staff to upload assignments for all classes to Microsoft Teams, to mark it and return it promptly when that work comes in. I have not said that teachers should be providing videoed lessons during this week: these will be offered next term. Teachers are responding to emails, setting and marking work, and writing reports, and some are doing online Correction Periods and tutorials: I have left that flexibility for them so that they work around their own commitments. Like a lot of schools, we are also using this time to train staff, and plan for next term. Bryanston pupils have enough work to be getting on with, and it is all uploaded on Teams.

The sudden change to our plans has required us to focus on what we can realistically deliver at short notice, and with a number of staff who are ill or self-isolating. My advice to all parents and pupils is that pupils should be working, and that includes GCSE, A level and IB pupils. In due course, we want to send off grades which are fully reflective of attitude to learning, engagement, work ethic, and achievement, and we want those to acknowledge prior achievement, as well as progress made. The grades we send to Ofqual will take into account work completed during this period: in that way, it will be as accurate and up-to-date as possible.

Much of the Easter holiday will be spent planning next term's courses, and I will write to you again in due course with more details as they are finalised. Again, thank you for your support.

If you have any questions in the meantime, please don't hesitate to get in touch. If pupils are unsure about any aspect of their work this week, they should contact their tutor.

Kind regards,

Dr David James
Deputy Head Academic