



16 June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

**Update: Tuesday 16 June 2020**

I hope that you and your families remain safe and well.

The last few months have certainly been one of the most extraordinary periods at school, the corridors have been quiet and the general excitement that comes from having a large number of children filling the classrooms has been missed; it has therefore been wonderful to see some of our students return this week and we look forward to welcoming more, as the week progresses. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you once again for your support, without which this remarkable time would have been even more challenging.

Please see below for the most recent updates:

### **Years 7, 8 & 9**

We received updated guidance from the Department for Education yesterday that now allows us some more flexibility in our provision. It states, 'that where possible, schools may invite pupils in other year groups (other than Y10 & Y12) in for a face to face meeting this term, where it would be beneficial.' As you will appreciate this will need to be managed carefully, as we still need to restrict the numbers in school at any one time to comply with government guidance. We will be sending a form to you separately to identify the demand for a face to face meeting to be able to plan effectively.

We will continue to set work remotely for students using Show My Homework. Mr Salmon wrote to you last week to explain that we are also trialling Microsoft Teams with some classes. I realise that remote learning is a challenge and I have listed other resources that are available below to further support the students.

### **The Oak National Academy**

The Oak National Academy is an online classroom and resource hub created by teachers. It provides high-quality, sequenced video lessons and resources. These are a series of online lessons broken down into year groups and subject areas. You can choose by subject and then it will take you through a series of lessons each broken down into manageable blocks or by schedule, which provides a weekly overview, lesson by lesson.

<https://www.thenational.academy/online-classroom>

### **BBC Bitesize**

BBC Bitesize provides a range of online resources across the subjects. Click on a subject and select a topic area for a bitesize lesson.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/levels/z4kw2hv>

### **Reading Programme**

As you will be aware we introduced a whole school reading programme in September. All students followed a set text during their registration period. The Greenshaw Learning Trust has released some home learning reading videos enabling your child to continue with supported reading for 15-minutes a day. Each book is broken down into 15 minutes chunks and read out loud whilst also showing the text allowing your child to follow. The relevant playlists are provided below:



Year 7 playlist - The House with Chicken Legs: Sophie Anderson and Welcome to Nowhere: Elizabeth Laird: [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLfWw\\_AneGN0yuTC75X7vLcDwX0IBqKhWw](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLfWw_AneGN0yuTC75X7vLcDwX0IBqKhWw)

Year 8 playlist - The Fastest Boy in the World: Elizabeth Laird; My Sister Lives on the Mantlepiece: Annabel Pitcher and Nowhere on Earth: Nick Lake  
[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLfWw\\_AneGN0zE5pDLS4SmIPNRQBCEP\\_OW](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLfWw_AneGN0zE5pDLS4SmIPNRQBCEP_OW)

Year 9 playlist - The Middle of Nowhere: Geraldine McCaughrean and More Thanks This: Patrick Ness  
[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLfWw\\_AneGN0zwPv\\_-HAYMH1SjjHEyTyvH](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLfWw_AneGN0zwPv_-HAYMH1SjjHEyTyvH)

Year 10 playlist - Orange Boy: Patrice Lawrence and The Remains of the Day: Kazuo Ishiguro  
[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLfWw\\_AneGN0y6LHaXUcfvgKtIEBcMrpmQ](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLfWw_AneGN0y6LHaXUcfvgKtIEBcMrpmQ)

### **Year 10**

As I mentioned, it has been wonderful to see a number of the students from Y10 already this week. At the last count we have over 80% of the year group returning to us for one day a week on a rota system until the end of term. Students are being taught by our specialist English, maths and Science teachers; resources used during these sessions are being posted on Show My Homework for those students unable to attend. We have also built in the capacity for pastoral support to support those students that want to discuss any issues they may have. All other subjects will continue to set work using the Show My Homework platform. We wanted to make sure that those students attending school did not miss out on the work set by other subjects so we have altered the procedure slightly, subjects will set the same amount of work but only once a week and the students will be given a week to complete this.

Please do not hesitate to contact Mr Salmon if you have any comment regarding remote learning.

### **Years 11 & 13**

Students who were due to take exams this year would have been approaching their final exam, but as you are aware, schools were asked to use their professional judgement to make a fair and objective assessment of the grades they believed the students would have achieved this summer. We have completed this process with teaching staff, considering of a full range of evidence when grading the students. We had several quality assurance checks in place to ensure that the results submitted were fair and objective. The exam boards will now put all centre assessment grades through a process of standardisation using a model developed with Ofqual. This means that the centre assessment grades submitted by schools and the final grade that students receive could be different.

Results will be published on the set days as planned; 13th August for A Level/BTEC L3 and the 20th August for GCSE/BTEC L2. If you are unable to collect these in person, please let Mrs Ryall know as soon as possible - [lesleyryall@archwayschool.net](mailto:lesleyryall@archwayschool.net)

As the students start to finalise plans for September, please do not hesitate to contact the school if students need support with any decisions, advice, guidance, information regarding entry requirements, entry to the Sixth Form or college courses. Please contact [admin@archwayschool.net](mailto:admin@archwayschool.net). Mr Redman is currently interviewing Year 11 students for places in the Sixth Form and would be willing to consider 'late' applications.

### **Year 12**

Phase one of the Y12 interviews have started well this week and again it has been great to have the students back in school, we are also expecting to see over 80% of the Y12s during this phase. Once we have collated the information, we will be able to move towards a more targeted phase of support for

Y12 students. Remote learning will continue, and I would urge you to encourage the students to engage in the increasing number of Microsoft Teams lessons that are taking place. The same process was applied for Y12 exam grade as listed above in the Y11 & Y13 section; AS results will be available on 13<sup>th</sup> August for students in Y12.

### Support and Mental Wellbeing



The School Nursing Services are offering a confidential texting service for 11-19 year olds where they can text a school nurse about any health worry they may have. This is available Monday-Friday 9-4.30pm and they aim to respond in the same working day. They have helped a lot of young people with managing their emotional health and wellbeing such as worries, anxiety, stress as well as sexual health and physical health issues. For confidential, friendly and helpful advice, text... 07507 333 351



For those teenagers who are thinking ahead to their future, Future Learn have a range of free courses which may help them to make some decisions and will also look good on their personal statements! [www.futurelearn.com](http://www.futurelearn.com)



For young people involved in design Code Academy offers free coding classes  
[www.codecademy.com](http://www.codecademy.com)

### Food Bank

We realise that during this difficult time circumstances change and we would like to draw your attention to support available from Stroud District Foodbank: 'Stroud District Foodbank is here to help you if you can't afford basics such as food. We work on a referral system which means that you need a voucher from a local agency to get food. Local agencies who can provide vouchers are Citizens Advice (0808 8000510) and P3 (01453 750480 or 0808 1682443), but also Stroud District Council housing dept, children's centres, health visitors and social services. We also work with some schools and surgeries. The agency will discuss your circumstances with you and issue a foodbank voucher if you need one and explain how to get the food. The agency can also provide longer term support if needed to help address some of the issues behind the reasons for your crisis. During the pandemic we will deliver to you.'

### Mental Health Support Available in Gloucestershire

It is normal for children and young people to feel stressed or anxious at the moment. We've all experienced sudden changes in our routines and are living with uncertainty. For some young people, the coronavirus pandemic may also worsen or trigger anxieties they were already struggling with. How a child or young person reacts can vary according to their age, how they understand information and communicate, their previous experiences, and how they typically cope with stress.

If you think a child or young person would benefit from more support, there is a range of help available, and most services do not need a referral.

### Kooth for 11 to 18-year olds [see below for more details on this new service]

An online support platform where young people can access free anonymous counselling, join friendly discussion boards, keep online journals, goal trackers, and read self-help articles with the option to contribute their own experiences or advice.

- Visit [www.kooth.com](http://www.kooth.com)

- Online platform available 24 hours a day. Counselling available 12.00pm to 10.00pm Monday to Friday, and 6pm to 10pm at weekends.

### **TIC+ for 9 to 21-year olds**

Phone, text or online counselling for young people. A parent support and advice line is also available online.

- Call 01594 372777, text 07520 634063 or visit [www.ticplus.org.uk](http://www.ticplus.org.uk).

- Available hours vary. Check here <https://ticplus.org.uk/contact>

### **Young Minds for all ages**

The children and young people's mental health charity, Young Minds has lots of resources, advice and toolkits for young people and professionals, and a parents' helpline.

- Call 0808 802 5544 or visit [www.youngminds.org.uk](http://www.youngminds.org.uk)

- Available Monday to Friday from 9.30am to 4.00pm

### **Parenting Support Line**

A free confidential advice line providing guidance and emotional support on any aspect of parenting and family life.

- Call 0800 542 02 02, email [familyinfo@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:familyinfo@gloucestershire.gov.uk), or message on Facebook.

- Available Monday to Friday 9.00am to 8.00pm and Saturday 10.00am to 6.00pm

CAMHS helpline for parents concerned about their child's mental health 01452 894300

Parent helpline being run by Family Information Service 0800 5420202.

Yours faithfully



Kay Young  
**Acting Headteacher**