



# WESTON FAVELL ACADEMY

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24 March 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

First of all, we send our very best wishes to all our Sixth Form families and hope that you keep safe and well while we all adjust to new ways of communicating, supporting and working. Thank you for your understanding last week as we rapidly responded to Government guidelines and instructions regarding the serious development of COVID-19.

I attach a copy of the letter which we have today issued to all Year 12 students: it summarises the guidance and discussions which I had with all Y12 students last Thursday, before school closed. That detailed letter should answer the majority of your questions and concerns, so please do take time to read it carefully. However, where personal or individual questions arise regarding your son or daughter please do email me directly. [Imann@westonfavellacademy.org](mailto:Imann@westonfavellacademy.org)

In the meantime, could I directly ask for your support in a number of ways:

- Please check Teams is being logged onto on a daily basis: that is our means of direct communication regarding work and messages and support with all our students.
- Give support and encouragement for a 'home-learning' timetable, which approximates to Sixth Form learning guidelines of at least 4 hours per subject per week.
- Encourage students to consider opportunities to develop fresh interests and learning: I emphasised to students that they are likely to be asked, well into the future, what they discovered about themselves in this period, which initiatives they took and where they demonstrated leadership. In short, they are the leaders of the future and we have high expectations of them in adversity and times of uncertainty.
- Be alert, please, to any 'holiday' timings and approaches creeping in and perhaps a clear delineation between week and weekend patterns may help with that.
- Above all, please be aware that some students may be struggling with emotional well-being and anxiety. The pace of change meant there was little time for adjustment. There was excellent advice given by Stephen Fry, Chair of MIND, at the weekend: 'Slow things down, develop and maintain healthy routines and choose times to log into the news and social media - turn alerts off.' Good for us, too!

I would like to reassure you, as parents, that we are all here, Teachers, Form Tutors, Mrs Whelan, SLT and myself, working with exactly the same priorities: student-centered support, high expectations for all, clear about our role as we prepare Sixth Formers for the next stage in their young academic and professional lives. It is only the mode which has changed: on-line, in all its forms, and by phone rather than personal physical contact.

All good wishes in these coming weeks and months.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Louise Duggan".

Mrs Mann  
Head of Sixth Form