

Updates from Nicholas Chamberlaine – 19 June 2020

Dear NCS Families

This week, we have enjoyed welcoming back our Year 10 and 12 students on site to spend some time with their tutors. These sessions focused on their wellbeing, on answering any questions they might have about the current situation and also to get more information about the sort of support they feel they need from school as we approach the summer. It has been fantastic to see so many of our students back in school and enjoying meeting up with staff and students, from a socially, safe distance of course. The students have been superb and followed the protocols set out to ensure everyone on site is safe and well.

From Monday 22nd June there will be subject sessions for Year 10s available in Science, PE BTEC, MFL and Health and Social Care to further support pupils in their learning. Over the course of the following two weeks there will be the chance for all students to receive a subject session in all subjects. Students will receive a timetable to let them know which sessions they need to attend over the next three weeks.

In Year 12, students are all set for their first face-to face sessions with each of their subject teachers over the coming three weeks. All students have been sent their timetables and classes have been set to ensure social distancing can be adhered to at all times. These sessions will be invaluable in terms of touching base with a teacher, talking through the work which has been completed since lockdown and getting personalised goals for the next few weeks.

The VI Form team is always available for a chat or to talk through any concerns students (and parents) may have with regards to their studies going forward or mental wellbeing. Please email r.bayliss@nicholaschamberlaine.co.uk to make an appointment.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to your child's education during this challenging time. As a school we are constantly reviewing how our teachers can provide the best home learning experience for your child and we would like to provide you with an update to our virtual learning policies and protocols. In the coming weeks, we will be using video and audio in some lessons and tutorial sessions. Teachers and tutors will set work in the standard way but some will be using short pre-recorded videos, audio clips or may host live classroom sessions to teach sections of the topics that students are studying currently. To support you in making sure all students are working safely online, please read the Safeguarding Protocols for Virtual Teaching – For Parents and Students document (attached). Please read through the protocols carefully with your child to ensure that you and they understand the expectations we have in these live lessons. It is essential that students follow the safeguarding protocols that we have outlined to ensure they are working safely at home. These instructions will also be posted on Google Classroom to remind students of the ways in which we work.

We believe that this is an important step to ensure that all students have the best possible chance of accessing the remote learning we are providing which in turn will help them with their studies. We are of course always happy to receive feedback. Please contact your child's tutor if you wish to discuss this or anything else linked to their learning or pastoral care.

This week we have received lots of accounts from teachers about the exceptional work of our students. Ms Haywood in Art would like to congratulate Anais Babbington in Year 9 who has won the Griffin Arts Festival (GAF) poster competition. Her poster will be seen in all of Griffin Trust's schools over the next few weeks.

In Maths this week all Year 7s and 8s were offered a project on code breaking, created by Ms Schei. The response from students was brilliant with photos of trips to Bletchley (from pre-lockdown) being shared and many positive comments and thanks being sent in from our

students. Ms Badesha would like to say a special well done goes to Rory Darlaston in Year 7 for his Maths work on 'Code breaking'. Apart from attempting the task, he also found the relevance of this in a real life scenario by saying how code breaking was used in World War 2.

Ella Powell, Maya Wjeliczko, Lucas Stanley, Bethany Semple and Curtis Lai in Year 7 have all produced some brilliant work in their English quizzes. Ms Sahota was delighted with their hard work and commitment.

The Transition Programme for our new Year 7 students is now well underway. We have produced a virtual tour of the school which is on our Facebook page. The link can also be found here <https://youtu.be/fYgB1-N13FQ>. We will also be virtually visiting primary schools from the beginning of next week. The 8th July has been allocated as the County's induction day, where usually Year 6s would have the chance to spend a day in their secondary school. Due to COVID-19 unfortunately this will not be possible this year but we are planning a series of virtual sessions that will replicate our normal programme. Please keep an eye on our website nearer the time for further details.

We are very much looking forward to the time when we can all be back together at school but in the meantime please continue to keep yourselves and your families safe and urge your children to follow the Government guidelines on social distancing.

Take care.

Head teachers

Mark Bland and Justin Creasey