



St Edward's School

Unity - Achievement - Faith

6th July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Under normal circumstances you would have already received our Teaching and Learning Newsletter setting out our direction for the Summer Term. However, when we had to close the school to most of our students due to COVID-19, we all had to work hard to find different ways to continue to support the learning of our students. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the ways in which you have supported your child and the school through these challenging times. We have really valued your feedback, especially within the recent parent-tutor meetings, and it is this that has helped to form our plans for next stages in learning which I would like to outline to you.

We want to help ensure that your child comes back to school in a way that will help them to smoothly transition from remote learning to classroom-based learning. We are acutely aware that our students will return from this period in a variety of ways. Some will be ready and keen to get going, some will be eager to return but (perhaps through no fault of their own) will have not been able to engage fully with remote learning. Some will have struggled, and so will have gaps and lack confidence and direction. Others still will have become disorientated and out of practice and perhaps anxious. The programme below is designed to give an advantage to all of our students and to help them to go further. This is our intended direction of travel but, of course, we will also need to be working within Government Guidelines.

Firstly, we have asked our Subject Leaders to modify their provision of work in the final week of term to serve as bridge from now until our return in September. There will be one routeway for those students who need time and space to catch up and secure their learning, and another for those who need further push and challenge. Many of you expressed which "group" your child currently falls into, and you can choose which of these routeways your child follows. These activities can extend into the Summer Holidays if you desire, and please remember, if you need them, the packs that we have created every week are still available for you to use if your child needs to catch-up, or brush-up their understanding before September.

Secondly, when students return in the Autumn Term, we want them all to land as safely and as smoothly as possible, and so lessons in those first few weeks will be characterised by low stakes assessments to find out exactly where they are in their learning, so that we can tailor a programme for each student. We will make sure that there will be plenty of opportunities for students both in the lesson and via home learning to continue to catch up and secure their knowledge and understanding. However, many of our students will be 'ready to go' and so for those students we will ensure that lessons and home learning will enable them to develop their skills at the next level and extend and deepen their knowledge base and understanding. For example, we can introduce Year 11 students to higher level concepts and skills, or provide opportunities for our KS3 students to apply their understanding to different and more complex situations and scenarios.



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In essence, we will ensure that we have a full understanding of the academic position of each student, whilst ensuring that *all* students are in the strongest position possible from which to progress with their studies before the end of the September, after which, we will share that knowledge with you and your child, via our revised assessment and reporting plans for 2020-21. We want you to be quickly informed and reassured about your child's progress, once we return.

Once again, thank you for the part that you have played in supporting the learning of your child through these challenging times and for continued support as we look to return to school in September.

As always, please do get in touch with me if you have any queries, comments or concerns.

Kind regards,

Mr C Barnett
Deputy Headteacher

