



28<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parent/ Carer and Year 8 Eastbrook students

Firstly, as always, I hope this finds you and those closest to you healthy and well. I know how difficult recent months have been for everyone and I sincerely hope you are all managing to cope with the challenges and remain positive.

### **Student wellbeing**

As well as staying physically active, it is very important that students pay close attention to their mental wellbeing. I know many students have been completing work on this over the last couple of weeks and have really enjoyed it. If students do feel as though they would benefit from additional support, I would ask them to raise the matter with their tutor during their conversations, and the tutor will then alert our safeguarding team who will do what they can to help. There are also some resources that we have put on the website that might also be helpful in this regard. Please follow the link below.

<https://www.eastbrookschool.org/secondary/news/mental-health-awareness-week/>

### **Returning to School**

I have received a number of queries regarding the school reopening. Although there may be opportunities for a small number of students to have very limited provision on the school site this term, it is becoming increasingly clear that the vast majority of students are very unlikely to return to school in the foreseeable future. My sincere apologies that I am not able to be more specific but I will keep you updated as soon as things progress and I am in a position to provide more detail.

### **Remote Learning**

As a result of the extended closure, one of the biggest concerns I have, alongside the health and wellbeing of our school community, is the loss of learning time for our students and the potential impact that this will have on their education, exam results and life chances. It is essential that we all work together to minimise the gaps in learning that will start to appear if our students don't continue to work as hard as they possibly can.

As such I want to outline our expectations of the students for the next half term with regard to Home Learning.

1. I would like every student to log into Show My Homework at least once every day during the week to ensure they are up to date with work that has been set for them, along with any feedback their teachers have issued to them.

2. I would like every student to complete a minimum of **3 hours of work each day**. There is a suggested schedule for each year group below and on the website. Although times are flexible, it is an expectation that by the end of the week, all of the work has been completed.
3. Students and parents should be aware that every teacher will report on the work they have received from their students every fortnight. Note that this will form the basis of the tutor's conversation with the student and their parents each fortnight so it is very important that students complete all of their work to the best of their ability.
4. I have asked all tutors to arrange **online tutor group meetings** each week. I hope that this will be a positive experience for everyone, and an opportunity for students to see and enjoy interacting with their tutor and classmates. Tutors will also be delivering elements of our Character Education curriculum. I would like all students to engage with these meetings if they have the necessary equipment to do so. Tutors will be in touch.

I am sure that you can all understand why what I have outlined is so important. Although I recognise it will be challenging at times, I cannot over emphasise how crucial it is that all of our students remain engaged with their learning, and are as ready as they can be to return to school when the opportunity arises .... And I sincerely hope that day comes very soon!

Thank you for your anticipated cooperation and take care

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Frith', written in a cursive style.

Mr Frith

From June 1<sup>st</sup> we expect every student to complete a minimum of 3 hours of home learning each day. It is essential that all students fulfil this expectation so that they are fully prepared for their return to school. **Year 11 and 13 students** should complete a substantial amount of private study which will prepare them for their next stage. If students intend to join the 6<sup>th</sup> form at Eastbrook, they should refer to the reading lists and assignments that have been provided.

**Note:** we haven't given specific times for studying. Students and parents should schedule times to fit with their circumstances. Similarly, the sessions can be moved around if preferred, but over the course of a week all sessions should be completed. **In addition, all students in Years 9 and 10 should allocate at least one additional hour each week to complete their work on Character Education and Unifrog.**

Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
Year 7									
English		Maths		English		Maths		Character Education & Unifrog	
Science		Drama / Music		Science		Geography		History	
Art		ECS		French or Spanish		Computing		DT	
Year 8									
English		Maths		English		Maths		Character Education & Unifrog	
Science		Drama / Music		Science		Geography		History	
Art		ECS		French or Spanish		Computing		DT	
Year 9 & 10									
English		Maths		English		Maths		English	
Maths		Science		Option 2	Option 3	Science		Science	
Option 1	Option 4	Option 2		Option 3		Option 1		Option 4	
<b>N.B. Year 9 &amp; 10 options split: you should complete 1 ½ hours per week per option subject you follow e.g. Art, Business Studies, Computing, Drama, Food / Catering, Geography, History, iMedia IT, Media Studies, Music, Religious Studies, Examination PE, French, Spanish, Sociology, Photography.</b>									
Year 12									
A minimum of one hour per day per subject									