

Dear Parents/Carers/Students,

27th April 2020

We hope this letter finds you and your family well.

We were delighted to receive an email earlier this month from SSAT(the School, Students and Teachers network) informing us that we have won an SSAT Educational Outcomes Award in recognition for achieving significantly higher than national average student progress among non-selective schools in applied subjects at Key Stage 5. We have always recognised the value and success of our vocational subjects and the opportunities it offers our students; however, especially at a time like this, it is good to see that external bodies also recognise the effort and success of our students and staff. Thank you and well done to everyone involved.

Staff resumed setting work on SMHW last week; we appreciate that every family's day may look different but do continue to encourage your child/children to have a planned structure that includes study time, exercise and social interaction. To support you with this we have created two documents:

- 1) Setting work: Expectations and Guidance for Parents and Carers**
- 2) Expectations and Guidance for Students**

To access these documents please click [here](#)

If you are still experiencing difficulty accessing SMHW at home, please contact Mr Mir (mirr@mayfieldschool.net).

We would like to say Ramadan Kareem to all members of the Mayfield Community who have started Ramadan. We understand that during this time educational work patterns may alter, and Mayfield School would like to continue to support our parents and students.

As you will be aware teachers are now offering Microsoft Teams Chat 'Office Hours', however, we understand that some of these may be difficult for some of our students who are fasting to 'attend'. Please email the relevant teacher and where possible they will be happy to make other arrangements. Please be mindful that a significant number of our staff will also be observing the month of Ramadan, therefore SMHW and email responses may be slightly out of the traditional 9am to 5pm working hours.

Teachers will continue to set work for all students and we encourage all students to continue to complete the set work, however, we do suggest staggering computer work patterns throughout the day rather than 2 to 3 hours of continual usage.

We would like to encourage parents and students to be mindful of the government recommendations during Ramadan <https://publichealthmatters.blog.gov.uk/2020/04/22/stay-at-home-for-ramadan/>

The link below from The Muslim Council of Britain may also be useful:

<https://mcb.org.uk/resources/ramadan/>

Elevate Education, who we as a school use often, are holding a webinar to support parents to adopt an optimistic approach to helping their child work and study independently at home. Details of the event are as follows:

Title: How to help your child study effectively without becoming the enemy

Date: Tuesday 12th May 2020

Time: 6:00 – 7:00pm

Cost: Free

Sign up link: <https://www.elevatecoaching.info/webinar-uk-1/>

We will be setting some work for our current Year 11 students in the next few weeks preparing them for their Sixth Form studies. More information on this will follow soon.

As you may be aware the Education Secretary, Gavin Williamson, announced last week that free laptops/tablets will be provided to students who either have a Social Worker or are in care, as well as disadvantaged students in Year 10 (as a school we will also extend this to include Year 12 students) who do not have access to a device on which to complete their distance learning. We are currently waiting for further information on this from the Local Authority regarding ordering these devices. For the time being for those students who do not have internet access and/or a device on which to access SMHW, we will continue to print the work from SMHW for them and post it home.

As we mentioned in our letter last week, as a school, we have now begun the process of allocating and ranking grades for Year 11, 12 and 13 students. Following guidance from the Government, we are not allowed to discuss or share these grades and rankings with students and so politely remind you not to email teachers asking about the grades.

We are awaiting further detail regarding the arrangements for BTEC and Cambridge National qualifications. It is our belief that students should ensure that all units with deadlines prior to 20th March have been completed and submitted and that students are working on any other coursework components where possible until we hear differently.

Any questions regarding this can be directed to Mr Pointon at pointonb@mayfieldschool.net

You will be aware that there's been a lot of talk and speculation in the media about when schools will be returning and how this will be managed. Please be assured that, despite these rumours, no decisions have been made regarding a return date. We are in daily contact with the LA and will be guided by them and will communicate this with you in due course.

It is with sadness that we have to inform you that the Mayfield community has not been untouched by the devastation of the COVID-19 pandemic with members of the school community losing a loved one. If this has affected you, please let us know so that we can support you.

If you would like to talk to someone about difficulties that you or your child are experiencing during the COVID-19 pandemic please see the attached leaflet [here](#)

Please be reassured that we continue to be committed to working with and supporting you all and ask that you email key staff with any requests of support or concerns.

Yours sincerely.

Allison Greenwood
Co-Headteacher

Lynn Campbell
Co-Headteacher