



# RANGE HIGH SCHOOL

## Challenge • Support • Flourish

Stapleton Road Formby Liverpool L37 2YN Tel: 01704 879315

Email: [admin@range.sefton.sch.uk](mailto:admin@range.sefton.sch.uk) Web: [www.range.sefton.sch.uk](http://www.range.sefton.sch.uk) Twitter: @RangeHighSch

Head Teacher: Mr M. McGarry MA, PGCE, NPQH

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Dear Parent/Carer,

I thought I would send a brief update at the end of what I can only describe as a 'unique' day! For most of our students, this has been the first day working at home and we have had a few working in school whose parents fall into the 'key workers' category. I hope it hasn't proved too difficult accessing online materials as I believe there have been issues surrounding the speed and availability of certain educational websites- this is only to be expected as there will be a lot of demand nationally for these sites. I would ask the students to be patient and perhaps work on other things, trying again later is always an option. Also please be aware that some of the teachers are ill so your contact could be limited with some of them.

For students working in school, you will continue to work on the same materials as outlined last week but please remember to bring your books with you for the subjects on that day. Some of the tasks set require you to have your exercise book, so don't forget them. Following advice, I have decided that it will no longer be a requirement to wear school uniform. The latest guidance suggests that the virus can be on clothes so it would be a good idea to wash the clothes at the end of the day. This will not be practical with school uniform so from tomorrow, students should wear their normal clothes and bring a pair of trainers that will allow for some physical activities. I would like to remind everyone that provision in school should be only used as a last resort. The DFE and the government are very clear that they believe that children are safer if they able to self-isolate at home. Please be assured that we have steps in place here at school to mitigate against the virus as much as is possible. Children arriving in school should only enter in the morning via the dining room where they will be registered, required to wash their hands and await their instructions for the day ahead. We are strongly encouraging all of our young people to observe 'social distancing' as much as is possible.

If your child is eligible for Free School Meals, Mr Pritchard has been in touch today as to how school can support at this time. You should have had a ParentMail message about this. If you haven't and you feel you are eligible, please get in contact via the school office.

GCSE/A-Level Grades

Obviously this remains a worrying time for all but especially our students in Years 11 and 13. The DFE have published some guidance but will need to provide further clarity. I will write separately to people affected by this directly once I have further information and guidance. Students in these year groups should continue to do the work set by teachers via ClassCharts as there may well be a requirement to submit some sort of online assessment in the future. The latest advice can be found at this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-school-closures/guidance-for-schools-about-temporarily-closing>

I will aim to continue to brief you with the latest information, advice and guidance as I get it. You will appreciate that the situation is changing rapidly so please bear with all of us here at school if things are a little more 'sluggish' than usual!

With thanks, as always, for your support and good wishes as we try to steer through this ever changing landscape.

Yours sincerely,

Mike McGarry  
Headteacher