



RANGE HIGH SCHOOL

Challenge • Support • Flourish

Stapleton Road Formby Liverpool L37 2YN Tel: 01704 879315

Email: admin@range.sefton.sch.uk Web: www.range.sefton.sch.uk Twitter: @RangeHighSch

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

02 December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you are all well as we now come out of our second national lockdown. You will no doubt have read and heard many things in the national and local press about how education is suffering as a result of having to work under Covid restrictions. It would be rather strange of me therefore to paint a picture of everything being 'perfect' at Range. It is not perfect and over recent weeks, we have been affected by some positive cases meaning students have had to go home as well as a number of colleagues testing positive or having to self-isolate due to instructions from the national Track and Trace scheme. All of this of course causes disruption to the day-to-day business of education. We have endeavoured to improve our online, blended approach to learning, and I have been pleased to see so many colleagues striving to grasp new technologies and to try to ensure that students remain engaged at home and in school as much as possible. However, we all recognise that this will never be a substitute for our students being in class with their subject specialist in front of them. So, I do apologise to our students who have had to self-isolate or whose teacher has not been in school with them but I do hope that you all understand that we are forced to follow the national guidelines as laid down by the government. I feel and hope that we have turned a bit of a corner and I am hopeful that we can start to plan to get the school back to normal when we return from the Christmas holiday.

In the new term, we will be starting to open up further specialist areas of the school to more year groups. We will be rotating some year groups in our Science facilities to allow practical education to start up again. More areas will be starting our extra-curricular programme once more, hopefully more sporting events will be starting across Sefton and we will be launching our catch-up programme early in the new term to support students across the school. We will of course do all of this carefully and with due consideration to our risk assessment procedures as well as on-going local and national guidance. Like everyone else, I am hopeful that a national vaccine roll-out will soon allow us to get school fully operational as it was before the pandemic.

As many of you will be aware, next term sees quite a few of our Parents' Evenings scheduled in the calendar including Y7 in the first week. We are currently working on a new App which will allow teacher meetings to take place via a video link on your phone. We may have to schedule these appointments over two evenings but Mrs Phillips will be in touch with more guidance before the end of term. Again, we would of course prefer normal parental consultations to take place at school and we will do that as soon as we are given permission to do so but this new Application will allow us to run the appointments in a Covid safe way.

Thank you to all of you, our parent body for your support and positive feedback during this last term. The concerns you have raised have been valid and constructive and we have tried to respond accordingly. Equally your positive feedback has been very helpful to all of us here at school who have been working hard to keep our students' education on track.

As Friday 18th December is the last day of term, we are intending to finish the school day at 12.45pm. Pupils will have lunch a little earlier and for those that use the school bus, this will leave at approximately 12.55pm.

I will be issuing the school Christmas Newsletter at the end of term which again will highlight some of the excellent work that has continued across the departments during this challenging term. May I take this early opportunity to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas as well as a peaceful and prosperous New Year.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike McGarry', with a long, sweeping underline.

Mike McGarry
Headteacher