



# RANGE HIGH SCHOOL

Challenge • Support • Flourish

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

15<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer/Students,

I hope you and your families are well as the latest lockdown continues.

I wanted to thank so many of you, our families, who have taken the time to get in touch and to provide such positive feedback in relation to our online learning provision during this initial two-week period. The staff have had to embrace a lot of new technology in a short space of time and it's great to hear that the students are engaging so well. Of course, there have been and there will continue to be some issues with hardware, software, internet connections and other concerns. My message to everyone at this time is to try their best. Unless a teacher is ill or unavailable, generally they will be there for at least part of each lesson, so all of our students should try and access the lesson, as per the timetable. If work is set in a different format for the lesson, the message for this will be posted on Class Charts. Again, from time to time, there may be some issues, but we will endeavour to ensure that this is how everything is communicated. If you have any questions or queries, please get in touch. Please bear in mind that this is not the perfect way to deliver education but if everyone does their best to engage and to stay on top of the work delivered and set by the teaching staff it is the best way to ensure education can continue. Again, the vast majority of your feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, and I have been passing those messages to the staff who are doing their best during these difficult times. Thank you for your feedback, it is much appreciated.

### **Students in Y11/Y13**

As mentioned in my letter last week, obviously the exams have been cancelled this year. There have been no firm details yet but the DfE seem to be indicating that there may be some sort of 'mini-exams'. It's very important that you continue to engage with your studies, and I have been delighted to hear that so many of you are trying so hard with everything being asked of you- well done. Dr Ainsworth has been/will be in touch with you separately this week about a number of important issues relating to you including UCAS, Sixth Form and exams. Please read through these communications carefully as they contain important information.

### **Students in Y9**

This is usually the time of year when we would be doing quite a lot of things in school in relation to your GCSE Options. Again, first of all, please don't worry about this. Mrs Phillips/Dr Ainsworth will be in touch with you separately about the process this year and your teachers will be talking to you in your online lessons in the coming weeks about their subjects at GCSE. You will have some extra time to make your mind up and don't forget, you will still be able to change your mind as the year progresses if you have to, so again, do not worry too much at this stage.

## Testing

We have started the process of lateral flow testing in school this week for the children of key workers and staff who are in school. When school re-opens following the lockdown, as things currently stand, there are DfE plans to keep this provision in place. Please remember that your child can only be tested if you complete the online form sent out during the Christmas break: [TESTTRACEFORMNHS](#)

It has been a new experience for many of our students but one that hopefully is helping to keep us all as safe as possible when in school.

Please note that during this period, normal business hours in school have been curtailed. The school office will be open from 8.30am but will close daily by 4pm.

As always, I am grateful to the whole school community for the way in which we are all working hard to keep ourselves safe, to teach, to learn, to problem-solve and to communicate during these challenging days of lockdown. Invariably, things will not be perfect, they never are even in normal times. However, with everyone doing their best and with the right approach we can and will get through this as a community. As always, please get in touch if there is anything we can help with at this time.

Yours sincerely,



Mr McGarry  
Headteacher