

Dear Parent/Carer

23rd March 2020

I hope you are as well as can be expected during such a strange and difficult time and that students have responded well to their first day of 'home schooling'. Hopefully they are starting to understand the importance of social distancing and making sensible decisions to stay at home.

I have shared some expectations with staff today in terms of routines for working from home. This includes teachers sending out a daily or weekly email to all their groups highlighting the work that needs to be completed. Teachers will also be available between 10am and 12.15pm each day to respond to emails, please ask your child to be patient as teachers may have quite a few to get through. Apologies that these timings have changed slightly to those shared earlier today. If your son/daughter is having trouble accessing the VLE please check the FAQ document that we have added to the school website <https://home.shelleycollege.org/news/article/help-with-accessing-work-online-troubleshooting>

Unfortunately, a small number of students have been misusing the email system, including sending inappropriate content and messages to all students. We have put some restrictions in place, however your support in ensuring this doesn't continue would be appreciated.

A few teachers have made me aware that some Year 11 and 13 students and parents have been in contact with them to discuss predicted grades. Unfortunately, in some cases this has included staff feeling under pressure to allocate a specific grade for an individual student. I fully appreciate the frustration and nervousness; however, I am sure you would agree that this is not appropriate and ask people to stop contacting teachers in this way. I can guarantee that once the government and exam boards release specific details about the information they require we will share data that is based on facts and evidence.

I would like to once again thank all parents who have contacted over the last week or so. Your messages to say thank you for everything we are doing as a school during this difficult period are very much appreciated. As I said in my letter last week the response from students, staff and parents continues to be amazing and makes me very proud.

As always, please let us know if there is anything we can do to help over the coming weeks and months.

Stay safe and the best of health to you, your family and friends.

Regards

Dave Wadsworth