

**Belong. Believe. Be Proud.**

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Principal: Mr Nathan Jenkins



Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you very much for your continued support and understanding during these incredibly challenging times. Like you, we have been coming to terms with the significance of the situation and are continuing to plan work and support for students during the closure period.

As you will be aware the school has been open for the last two weeks only for the children of Key workers, who cannot find any other solution to child care. This provision will remain in place over the two weeks of Easter. **The government advice to parents to keep their children at home, wherever possible, remains the same and school will only remain open only for those children who absolutely need to attend.**

We have been overwhelmed by the amount of work students have completed during the last two weeks. Staff have been engaging through Google classroom, email and other online resources with the students and we are thrilled at the response. As I'm sure you are aware keeping routines and continuing to complete school work is essential at this time, in order to make sure that valuable learning time is not completely disrupted. We will however be taking a break during Easter.

**For the next two weeks staff will not be setting additional work and students are not expected to complete any.** Effectively we are observing the traditional two week break from school work. Work will resume after the two weeks and parents/students can expect new work to be set following Easter. The work will be for Learning Cycle 4 as we have now reached the end of Cycle 3. The Cycle 4 Knowledge Organisers will be posted on the school website and will be available for students to download as a PDF. These should be used as normal by the students.

Students in Years 10 & 12 will continue to receive work direct from their teachers after Easter, via Google classroom or on email etc.

Students in Yr11 can also expect some work in the coming weeks. We are considering the next steps of learning for Year 11 as they continue to be home. For this reason we will be setting up bridging units in the coming weeks, for each 6<sup>th</sup> form course that we offer. These units will be found on Google Classrooms and details will be shared with students direct from the subject teachers. They will contain activities, information and relevant learning for pupils considering the subject for further study.

We will make all bridging units available to all Yr 11 learners as we are aware that many pupils will not have finalised their decisions about next year yet. The units will give them a nice insight into the material covered by each course and they can look at as many as they want while they decide. As the term progresses the material on each unit will start to ensure that the pupils following it are in a good position to start the course when school returns.

With regards to awarding of grades for yr11 & 13, we have today received advice from Ofqual about the process for awarding these. We will over the coming weeks, work towards delivering this. Please rest assured that students will be fully supported at all stages of the process and we will as always act in the best interests of all of our students. The Advice to parents and students can be found on the following link.

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/877830/Letter\\_to\\_students\\_-\\_Summer\\_2020\\_grading.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877830/Letter_to_students_-_Summer_2020_grading.pdf)

Please rest assured that we are acutely aware of the different pressures that learners may be under at the moment, and that if anyone is in the position where they cannot engage with the bridging units, this will in no way preclude them from accessing A Level or other courses when school resumes.

In the meantime. I hope everyone is well and safe and continue to thank you for your patience and understanding.

We need the support of each other and our communities in these unprecedented times. Kindness is paramount and we really appreciate all of the messages of support we have received. We will continue to keep in touch through regular communication on our website and through our social media accounts.

Yours faithfully

Nathan Jenkins

Principal

The Kings Alfred's school an Academy