# **Dormers Wells High School**

MATHS AND COMPUTING SPECIALIST SCHOOL

Headteacher: Ms R. Walsh B.A.Hons M.Sc.

Dormers Wells Lane, Southall, Middlesex, UB1 3HZ Tel: 0208 566 6446 Fax: 0208 813 2411 Email: jrana@dwhs.co.uk



1<sup>st</sup> May 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you are navigating your way through these uncertain times and are keeping well and staying safe. I want to thank you for your feedback over the last two weeks. It has proven very useful in helping us to plan for a longer period of time when the pupils will not be at school and how we can best support you in ways that you find helpful.

## **School Closure Update**

We still have not been given a possible date for the school to re-open. We will continue to monitor the situation but for now we are closed until further notice. Presently the school remains open for all children of Key Workers, children with an ECHP and those that meet the vulnerable definition set by the Government. If you fall under this category and require a place for your son or daughter, please contact us by completing this form: <u>Click here</u> <u>Online Learning: DWHS - Your Learning Schedule</u>

We are keeping in contact with families via our tutor calls and from the feedback we have received to date.it has become apparent that some students are still experiencing problems navigating Teams and OneDrive. In an effort to support these students, we have launched the <u>DWHS YouTube Channel</u>. Please click the link to visit the channel where you will find video tutorials to inform you and your son/daughter in how to make the best use of our online learning environment.

Some of you have told us that your son/daughter is struggling to complete all of the daily tasks set by their teachers. So to help with this, we have decided to introduce a <u>Catch Up Week</u>. This means you will not receive a Learning Schedule on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May, thereby providing students with the time to catch up on incomplete work. The Learning Schedules for the last two weeks can be found on our website or click the links below:

- Week 1 Your Learning Schedule
- Week 2 Your Learning Schedule

## **Tutor calls**

Parents play a vital role in their children's education and we have been delighted to hear that many of you are becoming increasingly more involved in your child's education helping them with lessons and assessments and spending time supporting them. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support which we always value. We are also aware you may have had a number of calls from a variety of staff and this may have been a little overwhelming for you. Therefore, instead of calling you weekly we will now call you fortnightly, giving you and your son/daughter time to complete the learning tasks. Of course, if you want to contact the school, please call 020 8566 6446 and leave a message with our reception team or alternatively complete our online form <u>Click Here</u>.

#### Year 10 Assessments

Year 10 should prepare for a knowledge exam in June focused on the content of work they are studying during school closure, as well as the content they have studied over the entire academic year. These assessments will either take place in school or at home depending on whether the school has re-opened. More details regarding



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the form that these assessments will take will be given in due course, but it is essential year 10 students keep up with their studies to be prepared for these internal exams.

## Year 11 – Bridging Work

As mentioned in my last letter we now ask Year 11 students to prepare for the next stage of their education by using our Bridging Work. This transition work will allow students get ready for Post 16 study in September. Click the links below to access this work.

- <u>Students planning to study A-Levels</u>
- <u>Students planning to follow a college course</u>

## Year 13 – Preparing for the next stage of your education

Year 13 students should be researching their subject of study at university and begin pre reading. Students are advised to check the universities portals.

## Where to turn to for help

It's okay to not be okay. We all need someone to talk to sometimes. If you feel overwhelmed, at risk of abuse or experiencing financial need, there are people you can call on for support.

Organisation	Contact details
<b>CALM</b> - If you identify as male, call the campaign against living miserably Available 5pm–midnight every day	Telephone 0800 58 58 58
Helplines partnership, directory of UK helplines	www.helplines.org/helplines/(link is external)
Kooth - Free, safe and anonymous online support for young people. Available Monday - Friday, 12pm – 10pm, Saturday - Sunday 6 - 10pm	www.kooth.com(link is external)
<b>Mind</b> - Call, text or email for signposting to support in your area	Telephone 0300 123 3393 Text 86463 Email <u>info@mind.org.uk(link sends e-mail)</u>
<b>Papyrus</b> - Under 35 and struggling with suicidal feelings, or concerned about a young person who might be struggling. Open weekdays 10am-10pm, weekends and bank holidays 2-10pm	Telephone 0800 068 4141 Text 07786 209 697 Email <mark>pat@papyrus-uk.org(link sends e-mail)</mark>
Samaritans - To talk about anything that is upsetting you	116 123 (free from any phone) Email jo@samaritans.org(link sends e-mail)



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Available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year	
<b>SANEline</b> - If you're experiencing a mental health problem or supporting someone else. Available 4.30pm–10.30pm every day	Telephone 0300 304 7000
Shout - In a crisis? Anxious? Worried? Stressed?	Text 'shout' for 24/7 text service support 85258
<b>Somali Helpline</b> Advice, family support, counselling, information and signposting Available Monday-Friday 4-9 pm	0800 542 6855
Switchboard - If you identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender, you can call Switchboard, open 10am–10pm every day. Phone operators all identify as LGBT+	Telephone 0300 330 0630 Email <u>chris@switchboard.lgbt(link sends e-mail)</u> Webchat <u>https://switchboard.lgbt/help/(link is</u> external)
<b>The Mix</b> (under 25) open Sunday-Friday 2pm–11pm	Telephone0808 808 4994 Webchat <u>www.themix.org.uk</u>

We want to continue to work closely with all our students and their families. In this very different time we have found strength in working together. Please do stay safe and take care. Our thoughts are with you and your families.

Yours faithfully,

Ms R Walsh Headteacher



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