



25 September 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

Letter from the Headteacher

I wanted to write to express my sincere thanks for all of your help and support over the past few weeks. This week has undoubtedly been the hardest week of my career. The school has been challenged in unprecedented ways and I am incredibly proud of how we have all pulled together as a community.

We will continue to work closely with Public Health England, The Department for Education and Public Health at the Local Authority to continually monitor the situation. This week we have acted as swiftly as possible to ensure that measures are in place as a matter of urgency to protect our students, parents and staff. I appreciate that having to ask some students to isolate puts pressure on you as parents and I apologise for this, but we must do all we can to ensure everyone's safety.

I have been incredibly impressed with the maturity and conscientiousness of those students who are carrying out remote learning from home. Please note that work will be available on Google Classroom by 5pm for lessons taking place on that day. As you can appreciate staff are teaching all day and so work may not be immediately available. Thank you for your understanding with this.

I want to reassure you that we have a robust plan in place in the event that we have a whole year group lockdown or have the need to rotate which year groups are in school. Today we have emailed a guide home to help support your child with remote learning which is very useful. This can be found here. I am also pleased to inform you that we will be trialling various methods of learning with students from next week to combat the challenge of having a mixture of students in the lesson and at home. Please note – that if a Zoom meeting is used, the student must use their school email address – there is no need to sign in as the meeting code and password will be on Google Classroom.

Finally, in what has been a difficult week for all of our community, I am thrilled to announce that Maiden Erlegh School has been shortlisted for Secondary School of the Year in the annual Times Education Awards. Thank you for all of your support. Of course, in our current situation we will remain focussed on keeping our community safe. Further information on this can be found on the following link: https://www.tes.com/news/tes-schools-awards-2020-shortlist

Yours sincerely

Mr P Gibson Headteacher