

24 September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I continue to be impressed by the way in which pupils in all year groups have settled back into school and have re-started their schooling with such enthusiasm and excitement. Pupils will now have met all of their teachers and are busy familiarising themselves with the demands of each of their subjects for the year ahead, along with responding so ably to the changes that have been implemented in school for everyone's safety.

When I wrote to you two weeks ago I explained some of the processes that the school will go through in the event of a positive test result having been received by one of our students. Whilst that has not yet been the case, you will obviously be aware that there does appear to have been an increase in the number of confirmed cases within the wider Hawarden and Flintshire communities which may directly impact upon the school in the future. In this event, a group of pupils, as defined by Public Health Wales may be instructed to self-isolate for a specific period of time. Whilst I appreciate this will have a direct impact upon families, I'm sure you will understand the wider public health benefit that this measure has. Obviously, in this situation we will want students to continue with their learning remotely. For this reason, we have been working on a continuity of learning plan which is available to view on the school website [here](#). Essentially, this is a plan which will be activated in the event of a group self-isolating, or indeed a partial or full lockdown, and will consist of blended learning. This being the use of all forms of methods and inputs, which might include live streaming of lessons or recorded delivery and associated supporting activities.

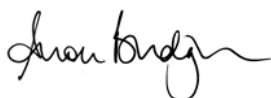
The main vehicle to support blended learning is your child's account within the online Office365 portal consisting of email and 'Teams'. Teachers have been busy talking their classes through the functionality of 'Teams' and preparing them for online assessments and other forms of learning using this system. If you or your child is having difficulty accessing the online school accounts, please contact the school or drop a line to ICTSupport@hawardenhigh.flintshire.sch.uk who will be pleased to help. Similarly, if you believe that access to a digital device or to the Internet is likely to be a barrier to your child being able to work from home at any point, please contact your child's Head of House for further advice and support.

If you find yourself in a situation where the family is self-isolating please ask your child to keep checking their 'Teams' account as work that is being covered is regularly being uploaded by teachers so that pupils can keep up with their school work, as far as is possible.

We have produced a 'Parent & Student Guide to Teams' which can also be accessed from our website [here](#) and a useful reference point for you is the school's own Learning Plans which are accessible [here](#) (password: 526400) which details the work that will be covered in every subject each week in school.

Thank you once again for supporting your child's education throughout these extremely challenging times.

Yours sincerely



Mr. S. Budgen
Headteacher