



Wednesday, 15 July 2020

THE CORBET SCHOOL

Headteacher Dr Jane Tinker BSc MA(Ed) EdD NPQH

Dear Parent / Carer

Welcome to the last weekly update in what will be another bumper edition with a lot of important news about returning to school in September and still not a great deal of the promise of sunshine.

I would like to thank both parents and staff for their support at the start of this week regarding the confirmed case of COVID-19. This is a completely new situation for all schools to deal with and is unprecedented – a word which I feel has been overused but is relevant. I have also sent out the joint press statement that was produced and can confirm that only the pupils and staff in the affected bubble were advised to self-isolate. I would also like to confirm that the Year 10 provision moved from on-site to remote face-to-face support because of staff shortages due to staff having to self-isolate following Public Health England advice. I am pleased to say that Zoom lessons were made available to the Year 10 pupils in English, maths, and science with between 5 and 6 lessons on in each subject. I would like to encourage all pupils to attend these sessions, I know that attendance was low today. If we do have to use Zoom or Teams to deliver lessons next academic year attendance will be compulsory and these will be a very important support for the pupils to access learning across the curriculum.

I have to say that I do feel this may be the shape of things to come and that we do need to be prepared for a very different and changing school picture in the autumn term. The situation may change frequently and at very short notice and we are all going to have to work flexibly; this will be a challenge for us all as schools are normally highly routine based organisations. At all times, the school will act in line with DfE and PHE guidance to ensure the health, safety, and wellbeing of the school community as the absolute priority. It may be the case that some pupils and staff in a particular bubble will have to self-isolate at home while other pupils and staff are on site and it really will be a blend of time in school and supported remote learning at home. If we do need to move to partial, local or full lockdown in the future I would like to reassure parents that we will be running a timetable of remote learning that will include face-to-face subject based lessons using either Zoom or Teams. I, like you, hope that it will not come to this, but we are ready if it does. As always, we have prepared for the worst whilst hoping for the best. I have also included in this mailing the Mental Health and Wellbeing Support sent to us by PHE. I know that everyone will respond to the COVID-19 crisis in their own way and talking through any worries or concerns is very important. It is a worrying and difficult time.

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Please do take the time to read through the September 2020 School Reopening document and share the information with your son/daughter.

Summer Wellbeing Booklet: We recognise that summer holidays may be very different this year. To help pupils if they do have time on their hands, we have put together a booklet of fun summer activities to do. There is also information on where to go for help. There are some lovely ideas in there and it is well worth a look. The booklet can be found by accessing the One drive/Student resources/Wellbeing.

Please can we ask that if you need to contact us to do so via email: admin@corbetschool.net. This will allow us to direct your question to the most appropriate member of staff. During the summer break this email address will be monitored but I am sure that parents understand that the staff need a break to recharge ready for an unpredictable autumn term and therefore please be understanding about this and staff will respond when they are able to do so. It is not an expectation that SMHW or individual staff emails will be monitored over the summer break.

I hope that you all have a lovely summer and a reminder that for the first week back we will see Years 8,9 and 10 on Wednesday 2nd September (these year groups do not attend on Thursday) and Years 7 and 11 on Thursday 3rd September with all of us being back on Friday 4th September.

Please do take care and stay well and take the time to read the end of year newsletter too.

Yours sincerely



Dr Jane Tinker
Headteacher

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