

# CLAVERHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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Principal: Mr P. Swatton, B.Eng (Hons)

Date: 12/02/21

Ref: PAS

Dear Parent or Carer

## **End of Term 1 Update.**

I hope that you and your family are safe and well. As this term draws to a close I wanted to provide you with a brief update and take this opportunity to thank you for the way in which you have supported us over the past 6 weeks.

Firstly, I would like to say how proud I am of the way in which our students, staff, parents and carers have successfully navigated the last few weeks. Remote learning and working is certainly not easy, it takes a new set of skills and a new discipline. Thank you for your hard work and engagement.

Our online parent consultation event for Year 9 parents, carers and students, which has taken place over the last two days, has received some excellent early feedback. Thank you to all who have engaged with this. We will be evaluating this event over the coming weeks to ensure that we can put in place further opportunities for parents, carers and teachers to meet and discuss the progress and wellbeing of individual students in other year groups.

It is obviously important that students take a break from learning and screen time over the next week in order to recharge, unwind and prepare for the next term. Over the next few weeks, we will probably see a change in the restrictions we are faced with. Regardless of this it is extremely important that all of our students continue to engage with the live lessons and other materials provided by members of staff. It is essential that, to maintain progress, students continue to keep motivated and learn the course content for each subject. This will help to consolidate learning and ensure that they are in the best position possible when we fully return to school.

Over the coming weeks, we will continue to assess student progress, in a variety of ways, across all years. This is undoubtedly a challenge, given all that we are going through, but it is important for us when planning for future learning. I would urge students not to be anxious about this and to engage fully with the assessment process. We are very experienced at assessing progress accurately and will work with you to ensure that our students are fully informed and prepared.

I know that the removal of exams has created additional uncertainty for our Year 11 students. One of the main questions causing concern is whether there will be any final exams or tests linked to the awarding of grades. Unfortunately, at this stage, we do not know the answer to this or the many other questions which you will undoubtedly have. We expect the findings of the Ofqual and Department for Education consultation to be published in the early part of March. Ofqual have proposed that the requirement for students to sit exam papers might form a part of the awarding process, but this is only a proposal and we await the details of how this might work. We will keep you fully informed as we receive further information.

We also realise that Year 11 students will be concerned about whether we will be running mock exams. In the coming weeks we will be providing exam practice for our students together with opportunities to collect further evidence of student attainment. We will give you further details of the timing and arrangements for this at the start of next term.

We are also planning, at this stage, to run our usual end of year examinations for students in other year groups. With this in mind it is important that all students continue to enjoy their learning whilst also keeping focus, making progress and maintaining a sense of purpose. All of these are extremely important in terms of ensuring wellbeing and securing future success.

With regard to wellbeing you may be aware that the BBC have launched a new website, Headroom, which provides a wide range of resources to help support good mental health. The web site includes links to everyday tips, soundscapes to help you relax, strategies to help with our current circumstances and suggested films. Please see the link below, we hope that you find this and the other associated links on the College website useful.

[BBC Headroom Website](#)

We understand that we will receive further detail of the full reopening of schools at the start of next term. Until then, we will continue to provide education and support using our current model. Our remote learning provision will recommence after the half term break on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February. If students are not able to attend lessons could parents or carers please email [attendance@claverham.org](mailto:attendance@claverham.org) to inform us. Thank you.

Finally, I want to thank you for your continued support and cooperation. If you have any questions or concerns please contact your child's pastoral team, in the first instance. Contact details are available on the College website.

I hope that you have a restful half term week.

Yours sincerely

Mr P Swatton

Principal