



May 2020

Dear Families

At the end of this half term, I would like to take the opportunity to thank you and the students for the way they have embraced online schooling during this challenging time. At the moment, we still have no guidance from the Department for Education on when the Academy may open to Year 7. Until we know differently, we have planned to be able to offer online work for the final half term of the year.

Next Half Term

Next half term students will be studying two new themes, Water and Off with Your Head. As well as this we will be offering a review week in the fourth week where we will be sending home end of year reports and are working on the best format for an online parents evening. In addition, we will be offering weekly form time sessions, assemblies, our wellbeing site, PE activities, competitions and an end of term celebration day.

Please note there was originally a training day scheduled on June 1st 2020. We have decided to postpone this while we wait for the situation to develop. At the moment we intend to move the day to June 29th. The training day is needed for us to ensure we can prepare for the induction of new students and preparations for next year.

Live Lessons

We have been providing live lessons to students every day and this will continue. The majority of students have been accessing these lessons regularly and the work produced has been fantastic. There are some students accessing paper-based work due to technology issues. I would emphasise that live lessons can be accessed through a mobile phone, smart TV, Xbox or tablet and a laptop is not needed. If you would like some help in how to access live lessons, please contact the Academy and we will see if we can help you. Otherwise more paper-based resources will be issued next half term.

Vulnerable and Key Worker Provision

For students who have an EHCP, a child protection plan or are currently accessing a social worker, places continue at Shireland Collegiate Academy. If you are looking to have a student attend this provision, please let us know. Places are also available for students of parents who are key workers but we would emphasise that students should only attend if there is no one at home to care for them as this is the advice from the government. Students access the same online work as all other students in this provision. There is no provision over half term.



Free School Meals

Over the past few months we have provided physical packages of food while the government produced the voucher scheme. As this scheme is now up and running we will not be providing the packages next half term. If you have trouble accessing or redeeming the vouchers please let us know. We have also had a number of students sign up for free school meals over the past few weeks and if you think you might be eligible, contact the Academy.

Finally, I would just like to offer my thanks to all the hard-working staff, students and families who are helping to keep us together as a community over the past few months. Many thanks for the kind messages, the shared joys and feeling you can come to us when there are difficulties.

This is not how we pictured our first year, but we will do everything we can to support you and your children now and in the future.

Yours sincerely

George Faux
Principal