

5 January 2021

Dear Parents

Term 3 School Closure

You will have heard on the news that schools have been directed to deliver learning online for all students for at least Term 3. We have been preparing for such an eventuality for a number of months and aim to ensure all students can access a provision of a minimum of four hours learning per day that will include some daily live lessons.

As yet, we are unclear about arrangements for all external exams. We know that January exams are still taking place and to ensure the safety of all involved, we intend to offer COVID 19 testing to students who are sitting the exam that day. Further details will be made available. Despite what some news organisations and media platforms are reporting, no Government decision has yet been made on the format of summer examinations. In any event, it is highly likely that assessment will include a teacher judgement based on the evidence of the work produced by the student (for example coursework, mock examinations, class tests, homework etc). We also still plan to hold mock exams towards the end of Term 4. These will be crucial in informing grade predictions and it is, therefore, really important all students taking exams are well prepared and maintain their studies in the coming months.

Online Learning Plans

Specific details of the provision for each year group are available on the *Home Learning* pages on our website: <https://ntc.kent.sch.uk/home-learning/>. We will ensure these pages are kept up to date so do please check them regularly.

The general principles are:

- **Monday 'Community' Day:** All year groups will have an assembly with their Head of Learning Community, followed by online meetings with their Learning Coach. This will also include year group specific PSHE work and time to complete independent learning set by their subject teachers.
- **Tuesday to Friday:** On these days, students will be following a timetable of learning outlined on our website that includes a blend of live and online learning. All work will be set on *Google Classroom*, which students can access via the *Student Launchpad* on our website.

Students should also regularly check their school email account and contact their subject teachers directly if they have any queries about their lessons. More general enquires about learning can also be sent to homelearning@ntc.kent.sch.uk, where they will be directed to the appropriate person.

If your son does not have access to a suitable device to access online learning (or any other technical issues) please email technical@ntc.kent.sch.uk.

We also encourage students to keep in regular contact with their Learning Coach, for extra support advice or any guidance needed.

Key Workers

The school will be open for certain students, which includes children of keyworkers. You can find further details on who this includes through this link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>.

Please email keyworker@ntc.kent.sch.uk should you meet the above criteria and wish your son to attend school. To ensure the safety of staff and students, we will be offering COVID 19 lateral flow testing from next week.

Free School Meals

For students who are entitled to Free School Meals, a weekly food parcel will be available for collection from Northfleet School for Girls school. Please contact Ms Stanley on stanleyp@ntc.kent.sch.uk if you are eligible by Thursday 7 January 2021.

Thank you for your continuing support. I do hope you and your family keep safe in these challenging times.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jane Partridge
Headteacher