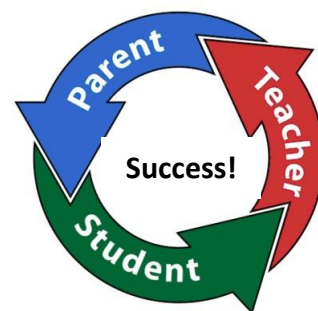


7 May 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Ahead of the bank holiday weekend I thought I would write to share some updates. We soon hope to publish a new edition of "The Pulse". It will be a little different to our usual publication, however despite the school building being closed to all but our special provision students, school remains well and truly open for business and we will have plenty of good news to share. Teachers have been very busy creating and delivering lessons in new ways and seeking to give feedback to students on the work they have completed. In addition to setting work, staff have recently prioritised check in calls to students. It has been great to make contact again and catch up and see if students need any further and advice with their work.

Thank you so much for your support in our current way of working. As a parent myself, I keenly understand the challenge of negotiating access time to devices, coping with "inconsistent" internet access, juggling supervision of the "home school" with work demands. We recognise that only by working with you and the students can we make this a success. It isn't ideal but, optimistically, we are making every effort.....together.



### Online work provision

Following our recent phone calls to students, and taking on board the feedback you have given along with perspectives from staff, we would like to change the way that we are setting work for students. We believe this new approach will better support students in organising their time and will support staff to streamline their work load.

From Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2020:

- All students in all year groups will receive around 3 hours of work a day (the current situation)
- Work will now be set as listed in the table below, rather than following the student's usual school timetable.
- Any work set that needs to be submitted, will be due in the following week on the same day.

same day.

						Subject	Approximate amount of time spent per week per subject	
Monday		Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday		Foundation	KS4
Subject 1	English	Maths	English	Maths	Science	English	2 hours	2 hours
Subject 2	Geography	History	Science	RE	Art and Design	Maths	2 hours	2 hours
				ASDAN	Photography	Science	2 hours	2 hours
Subject 3	Music	Business Studies  Economics	Computing  Computer Science  Creative i Media	Foundation Technology Product Design  Food and Nutrition  Health and Social Care	French  Spanish	PE	1 hour	1 hour
						RE	30 mins	1 hour
						ASDAN	N/A	1 hour
						Art and Design	30 mins	1 hour
						Photography	N/A	1 hour
						Drama	30 mins	1 hour
						Music	30 mins	1 hour
						Geography	45 mins	1 hour
						History	45 mins	1 hour
						French/Spanish	1 hour	1 hour
						Product Design	30 mins	1 hour
						Food and Nutrition	30 mins	1 hour
						Health and Social Care	N/A	1 hour
						Computing	30 mins	N/A
Subject 4	PE	PSHE		Drama		Computer Science	N/A	1 hour
						Creative i Media	N/A	1 hour
						Business Studies	N/A	1 hour
						Economics	N/A	1 hour
						TOTAL	12 ½	12

### **Re-opening Rumours**

We are led to believe that the government will outline a road map for lifting the lockdown on Sunday. We don't yet know how this will impact schools, but at some point, schools will start to reopen. School leaders across the Maiden Erlegh Trust are working very hard to think through what that might look like and mean for our provision. It is clear that there won't be a return to "normal" anytime soon. As we get a clearer steer from the government, I will let you know our plans and thinking. Thank you for your patience in this.

### **Public examination Centre Assessed Grading**

The school continues to work through an extremely rigorous process, using a range of evidence, in order to assign a Centre Assessed Grade to all students due to sit exams this summer. We found out this week that the process will also be extended to Year 10 students who were due to sit examinations in Religious Studies and Music and I have written to parents separately with more detail about this.

Whilst I am sure this process continues to be stressful to our year 11 students and their families, I do thank you for following my request not to contact the school or staff about specific grading decisions. We are simply not allowed to enter into such discussions as it undermines the integrity of the process.

### **New Deputy Headteacher appointment**

I am pleased to be able to announce the appointment of Mrs Sarah Gibbs as our new Deputy Headteacher from September 2020. Mrs Gibbs, is a Mathematics teacher by training and is currently Assistant Headteacher for Mathematics and Standards at our sister school Maiden Erlegh School. She has also taught in a number of other local schools and has an impressive track record of success. Mrs Gibbs will be working alongside the leadership team, staff, students and parents to ensure that the quality of education in the school – its curriculum and how we deliver that curriculum – is strengthened further. She is an excellent addition to the team with great skill and expertise and is very excited to be joining the school.

Mrs Elliss, currently Deputy Headteacher, will be moving to a new role within the Maiden Erlegh Trust and will continue to be involved with the school in supporting our priority to raise standards of student achievement.

I do hope you enjoy your time as families and households over this bank holiday weekend.

Yours Sincerely,



**Mr A Johnson**  
Headteacher