

Horsforth School

Lee Lane East Horsforth

Leeds LS18 5RF

Tel: 0113 226 5454

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Email: info@horsforthschool.org

Website: www.horsforthschool.org

Headteacher: Dr P Bell

Parent/Carer

Our ref: PCB

Date: 03/04/2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you have a safe and enjoyable Easter and that you and your family are well. I hope some of the suggestions and links in my last letter were useful.

I have been sharing some of the positive emails you have sent to us with our staff which has been much appreciated. Thank you from all of us.

We continue to open to children of Key Workers and our most vulnerable students but have no news as to when we will re-open.

I would like to update you on a few developments and some things we hope to put in place this week.

Examinations

As you know, all summer exams have been cancelled. Mrs Comiskey will be sending a separate letter to all Year 11 and 13 students affected to explain how grades will be awarded this year. We will not be able to inform parents or students any details of specific grades as directed by the Government but more information will follow regarding the process we must follow.

Remote learning

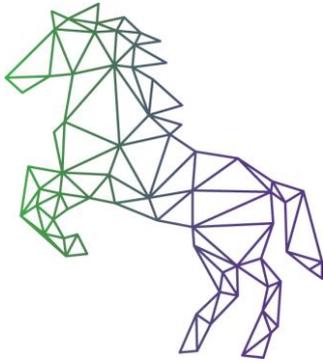
We are attempting to use recorded lessons and technology to support students learning and have been piloting this prior to Easter in some cases. We want every student to have at least one lesson a day in this manner (in many cases more) and students will be able to access this through their Google Classroom as usual.

Remote Learning Year 11 and 13

Please encourage your son or daughter to continue to work through the set tasks. If students are not happy with their examinations they will have the opportunity to sit an exam at some point and this is perfect preparation.

Year 11 students will be sent an email this week giving information about a new **Year 11 into 12 Transition site** <https://sites.google.com/view/y11-into-12-transition-work/home> that has now been set up and populated with subject specific information and tasks for them to be working on in

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preparation for A level courses next year. There will also be tasks linked to careers (UniFrog) and cultural experiences for them to have a go at. They will be encouraged to complete the tasks set between now and September but this work should supplement and **not replace** their Google classroom work that you have set them. This site will also be available to any students wanting to join our sixth form who are not currently at Horsforth so they too can complete the tasks in preparation for September

Student worries, managing their concerns and safeguarding

I would like to say again that our Pastoral Team will still be available on the phone and online if students need support or are worried. Please email Pastoral Staff at pastoralhub@horsforthschool.org if you have any queries or concerns. Students struggling with anxiety or low moods at this difficult time should look at www.mindmate.org.uk and we also encourage them to go explore the online counselling tool called Kooth. This is a free, safe and anonymous teen counselling service: www.kooth.com

Please could all parents/carers ensure that their children are logging onto their Horsforth school email address accounts, this is the main way in which pastoral staff and teachers will contact your child. We know a minority of children have still not yet done this and are missing out on important updates. (They do this via the school website and clicking on the email link at the top of the home page).

Pastoral staff will continue to make contact with parents/carers to offer support and complete wellbeing checks over the next few weeks. Please do try to return the email or call if you receive one.

Domestic Violence

Safer Leeds have launched their Domestic Violence campaign and updated their website to include useful information for victims of Domestic Violence and how to access support. Please visit: www.leeds.gov.uk/domesticviolence

If you are concerned about a child or young person

Please can contact Leeds Children's Services on 0113 3783691

Thank you again; I hope you and your family remain safe.

Yours faithfully

Dr P Bell

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