



Toynbee School

a specialist humanities school

Bodycoats Road, Chandlers Ford, Eastleigh, Hampshire SO53 2PL

Tel: 023 80269026 Fax: 023 80251086

E-mail: admin@toynbee.hants.sch.uk

Headteacher: Matthew Longden B.Sc.(Hons), NPQH

22 January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you are well and safe and are adjusting to life in lockdown again!

In the coming days we will be announcing changes to online learning and Mr Kerwood will be contacting you with further detail of this. We have evaluated the best way to balance workload and how to provide the most interactive approach whilst giving pupils the opportunity to complete work that they can receive feedback about.

The numbers of critical workers have continued to increase, and we have needed to increase the number of staff in school and expand our provision to ensure that pupils are kept safe and appropriately distanced.

Update on DFE Testing

The main schools and colleges testing programme, using rapid lateral flow tests to find asymptomatic staff and pupils and those who have coronavirus (COVID-19) but do not have symptoms, is continuing. However, following [new advice from NHS Test and Trace and Public Health England \(PHE\)](#), we are temporarily pausing the daily contact testing element of the testing programme, which was in place as an alternative to self-isolation for those who came into contact with positive cases in schools.

Twice weekly testing for staff in secondary schools and colleges.

Rapid testing remains a vital part of our plan to suppress this virus. The use of rapid lateral flow tests is already proving beneficial in finding people with coronavirus (COVID-19) before they develop symptoms. We will therefore also be encouraging schools and colleges to increase regular testing of staff to twice weekly as further reassurance and to break chains of transmission during this period. Our guidance for secondary schools and colleges will be updated shortly.

Year 7

Firstly, I would like to say how proud I am of the Year 7 pupils & how well they have adapted to the online learning. I know how overwhelming it has been for everyone. They have risen to the challenge and are doing great. Please continue to share any feedback with me as it has been really helpful.

It was so very lovely to see so many pupils try & engage in the Year7 consultation session this week with me. I was overwhelmed by how many tried to join! I am now going to be inviting them in tutor groups. I have lots of fun activities planned so I hope to "See" them then. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any concerns or issues at r.murchie@toynbee.hants.sch.uk

Year 8

Year 8 continue to impress us with the incredible work that they are producing at home! It is great to see so many students taking part in the consultation sessions. I hope that they continue to find them helpful and use them as an opportunity to ask questions and talk to their teachers about any concerns.

I am looking forward to speaking with many more parents and students next week and would like to thank those of you who have reached out with your questions, suggestions and experiences so far.



I am missing seeing the Year 8 students every day and cannot wait until we are able to be back in school together. Thank you for your ongoing support and please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or you feel that your child needs some extra support.

Best wishes,
Mrs Ahern
Guidance Manager - Year 8

Year 9

As I mentioned in my letter last week to year 9 parents, I am immensely proud of how well the year group have responded to this most challenging set of circumstances. Having made such a positive start to their GCSE options this year, despite this disruption, they have continued to immerse themselves in their learning and are coping with it extremely well.

It has been brilliant that so many year 9's have been engaging with my weekly virtual assembly and completing the 'Weekly Wellbeing Challenge'. We will continue to look at a range of relevant topics to support their mental health and wellbeing. I will always include a number of useful resources for them to look at each week too. Next week's assembly will be on online safety- focussing on social media and online gaming safety; which is really important right now given the increased amount of time some will be spending on their phones or gaming. For those pupils that have been completing the 'Weekly Wellbeing Challenges', I will be rewarding with achievement points! It has been great to receive so many photos and messages from year 9 for this weeks activity challenge- with virtual Netflix parties, origami, driving theory tests, baking and virtual rollercoaster rides to name a few!!

I have spoken to a number of families over the phone since returning, and it is always lovely speaking to the pupils! I will be continuing to contact you all over the coming weeks. If you have any issues or need support with anything in the meantime, please get in touch with me by email.

Best wishes,
Mrs Kalogierias
Year 9 Guidance Manager

Year 10

I just wanted to say a massive well done to Year 10! I have been so impressed with how well you have been engaging with your online learning and the work you have been producing. So many of your teachers have been in touch with me to let me know how impressed they are with your hard work so far - keep up the great work! Next week I will be sending out reward postcards to those of you who have been nominated by your teachers - keep an eye out for these.

I am really looking forward to getting the Year 10 enrichment activity 'A Photography Scavenger Hunt' started - details of how to enter will be on Show my Homework. There will be different prizes/rewards up for grabs for those who wish to take part.

Once again, a massive well done to you all for your continued hard work. I hope you have a restful weekend.

Miss West

Year 11

I would just like to say a personal "well done" to Year 11 and that I am extremely proud of how hard they are working and engaging with remote learning. So many pupils are joining the consultation sessions and I have had lots of positive feedback from teachers.

Keep up the amazing work, Year 11. Everything you are doing now, and the hard work you are putting in, will all pay off in the long run. You can do this!

Mrs Vallance

Laptop donations

We have been absolutely overwhelmed by the generosity of members of our community. We have had numerous laptops and tablets donated to the school from members of the public which have been distributed amongst those pupils that had limited equipment at home. We have also had some donations from Chandler's Ford Help, which was formed in March 2020 to help the Elderly and Vulnerable during the pandemic. In November 2020 they became a Charity and they work closely with Eastleigh and Test Valley Councils as part of their Local Response Centres. They also work with the local Hampshire County Councillors which has led them to an initiative where they have asked local businesses to sponsor a laptop for £200 each. The response has been amazing and Toynbee were incredibly lucky to have received some laptops. I would like to thank the following companies for their incredible kindness and support, Richard and his team at Chandler's Ford Help, and to the members of our community that have donated laptops for helping our pupils continue their education whilst at home.

Glenn St.John-Colgan from Augmentas Group

Annabel Stewart from Rising Vibe Ltd

Nathan Willis from K&N Finishers Ltd

Adam and Jo Boyes from ALB Electrical Ltd



Have a great weekend.

Matthew