

WESTCLIFF HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

An Academy Grammar School
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24th April 2020



Dear Parents and Carers,

We reach the end of our first week of the summer term. I very much hope you and your family remain safe and well, and the pupils are effectively managing their school work.



Science



Engineering

Year 9 Examinations

Thank you to parents for supervising these tests; we hope that the pupils can answer these and return them easily. If there are any problems, please make Mr Margett (the Learning Manager for Year 9) aware.

Year 12 Examinations

To assist students in preparing for these examinations staff are currently preparing a list of topics to be covered in each subject. These will be sent out next week.

Year 9 – Duke of Edinburgh Award Completion

Unfortunately, due to the current situation both Bronze Duke of Edinburgh expeditions are to be postponed. When the school reopens, we will look at new dates to ensure students can complete the award. They have all worked hard this year in lessons planning their routes and we do not want this hard work to go to waste.

Whilst the students are at home they can still be completing the other sections of the award such as physical, skills and volunteering. They will need to let the assessor for each section know what they are doing and keep a log of this each week. The assessor can then write a report online (through EdofE assessor report) which will then be submitted onto EdofE. More information about this can be found on the DofE website below.

<https://www.dofe.org/dofewithadifference>

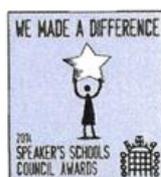
Free School Meals

If parents lose their income, it is possible that you may find your daughter/son is eligible for Free School Meals. The families of every eligible pupil are currently receiving £15 of food vouchers each week. Please take up this opportunity if you are entitled to it.

The link is: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

IT Provision for Some Families

The DfE have recently announced there will be some IT provision for a few families. We have not yet had any details of this scheme, but will send out information as it becomes available.



Speakers for Schools

The Speakers for Schools organisation has a programme of talks by societal leaders and leading employers. Their talks are topical and updated each week. The link is:

<https://www.speakersforschools.org/>

Year 10 Work Experience

We have made the decision to cancel this year's Year 10 Work Experience. We cannot be sure even when the lockdown ends what social distancing measures will be in place nor for how long.

We have considered planning Work Experience for the Autumn Term, but we believe that once we have returned to school the main focus for the new Year 11 will have to be preparation for next summer's GCSEs.

PE and Well-being

We have noted that not all of the pupils have signed up to the PE Classroom; as well as PE lessons/activities, this area also includes health and well-being guidance to the pupils.

The classroom is open to all pupils in years 7-13. The code is pvarna4.

Zumos

As a school we are subscribing to Zumos so we can access their wellbeing and resilience resources. The proper launch does not occur until September, but in the meantime they are providing access to their '70 day Lockdown Wellbeing Programme' for staff, parents and pupils.

The graphic features the Zumos logo at the top left, a 'to be HAPPY' logo at the top right, and a yellow banner that says 'LAUNCHING TODAY'. Below this, it reads 'Start our FREE 70 day Lockdown wellbeing programme for families.' and 'A comprehensive course for mental wellbeing and resilience'. A central box contains the URL 'https://www.zumos.co.uk/wellbeing.aspx'. Below the URL, it says 'DAY 1 Topic – uncertainty' and 'Together we'll get through this!' above a group of diverse people with their arms raised. At the bottom, it includes logos for CAMHS Solent NHS and HeadStart Wolvehampton, along with the text 'LISTEN – PRACTICE – SHARE' and 'No subscription – no registration'.

To start accessing the resources, please use the link below. They include Mindfulness activities, How to be Happy recordings, resources to gain new skills and challenge yourself, as well as lots of expert written content helping you to manage relationships and other aspects of life.

<https://www.zumos.co.uk/Wellbeing.aspx>

Learning Managers will share this link directly with the students.

We continue to up-date and add resources on our school website. These are under the curriculum tab, labelled Wellbeing.

Staff Making Contact

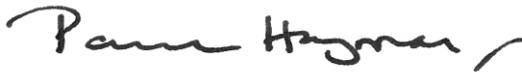
Each week a member of staff will be contacting you to ask how things are and to ensure our pupils are managing during this absence. Please ensure they are made aware of any issues so we can signpost the right support and alert our Pastoral Team / Learning Managers as appropriate.

Pupils needing to be in school

School continues to be open to provide a learning space for the children of Key Workers where there is no one at home able to supervise them, or those who are vulnerable. If your child needs to use this facility, please email generalenquiries@whsg.info to register for this.

I hope you and your family remain safe.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Hayman" with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dr Paul Hayman
Headteacher