

## **11th May - Message to parents from the headteacher**

### **Review of home learning**

We have been keeping home learning under review by carrying out surveys of students' views and gathering feedback from teachers - many of you have given us your thoughts as well - thank you for these. Generally students are accessing school work easily and regularly, but we recognise that we can help them to organise their time better and we can give some guidance about how much to do.

For students in years 7-10 we recommend three hours of school work a day. We have created a daily timetable for Year 7-9 on this basis, which gives the right proportion of time to each subject, and we advise students to keep to the routine provided by the timetable. Heads of Years will be in touch with parents with more detail about this.

### **Home learning and inclusion**

Some parents have been asking why more lessons are not held live with video. Please bear in mind that we have high numbers of disadvantaged students - well above the national average. We know that, in many homes, our students have to wait for access to a computer. There may be only one in the home, and several other siblings as well as parents who need to use it. Some families have no computer at all, and a small number have no computer and no broadband. We are working to resolve these issues, but it remains the case that just accessing a computer is very difficult for some students, so it is easier for them to go to Google classroom to complete their home learning at the time when they have the access.

If a lesson is streamed live, the students have to be present at a specific time, and this simply isn't possible for many students for the reasons given above. Where video is used, it is only with Year 10 and above, and only if a teacher feels comfortable offering this.

### **Re-opening of schools - Prime Minister's address.**

I'm sure you will have seen or read the Prime Minister's address on Sunday night about adjustments to the current lockdown. He set out an ambition to allow secondary school pupils with exams next year to have "at least some time with their teachers before the holidays". Detailed guidance on how this will work will be provided in due course, so as more information becomes available we will consider what the implications are of any re-opening, bearing in mind the welfare of students and staff. The most important consideration is to minimise the risk of infection.

## Friday News

Once again, many thanks to all of you who are encouraging your children to send in items for the Friday News - it's a great way to stay in touch and to get a glimpse of the wonderful work and activities students are doing.

Wishing you and your family a healthy week,

Elizabeth Kitcatt  
Headteacher  
Camden School for Girls

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