

5th June 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

COVID19 – Parent Update 05.06.2020

After a gloriously sunny half-term break, we are gearing up to welcome Year 10 students back to school from 15th June, as per the latest government guidance. As you may be aware, only a maximum of one quarter of the cohort can be in school at any one time so as to allow schools to implement social distancing measures. Steps have been taken to reconfigure the use of our school site and school day, and to maintain the highest levels of hygiene, to ensure that both students and staff can work safely and as productively as circumstances allow. Being in school will be a valuable opportunity for students to receive targeted support with areas of their learning with which they may have struggled, to prepare for September and the demands of Year 11, to reconnect in person with their teachers and peers, and to re-engage with being at school and bring some much needed normality back into their lives. Detailed information about how our Year 10 students will return to school will be sent to our Year 10 families on Tuesday next week.

Our in-school provision for vulnerable students and the children of key workers in other year groups who cannot be cared for at home will continue. If you need a new school place, or no longer require an existing one, please remember to contact us at: attendance@iscaexeter.co.uk

Our home learning programme will remain in parallel for all year groups, and we will continue to strive to reach and support each and every student. Knowledge Organisers are a key element of students' learning and it is important that students complete their weekly subject Knowledge Organiser work to facilitate their progress into the next academic year.

In order for us to capture your feedback, and if you have not already done so, I would be very grateful if you could take a few minutes to complete the parent survey available through this link [Parent Survey](#), ideally by the end of the day on Monday, 8th June. This will help us to further improve our support with regards to engagement with home learning and student well-being.

Virtual Reading Programme

A recent addition to our home learning offer has been the Virtual Reading Programme, which allows students from Year 7 to 10 to read some exciting books with us daily, through our YouTube channel. Videos are accessible via the link on the school website for your child's year group, or in their English Google classroom. We have received really positive feedback so far, especially around students enjoying being introduced to books which they may not have chosen for themselves, thereby broadening their literary horizons. We are delighted with the success of the initiative thus far, and hope to welcome more students to the programme over the coming weeks.

In addition, all students in Years 7 and 8 will be given time to access the readings in their weekly library lesson, or at the start of English lessons when we return to school. All students will also be given a weekly quiz on the reading which they have completed with us that week, which students can access via their English Google Classroom.

Sparx Classroom and Homework

Over the next half-term, the Maths Department will be using Sparx Classroom to cover new content with all year groups. From Monday 8th June, we will be setting Sparx Classroom lessons to complete on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. On Thursdays, we will be setting a one hour Sparx Homework task, which consolidates the content learned on Monday – Wednesday.

This term we hope students will make use of the support of their teachers and Sparx Classroom to learn new concepts in Maths. An overview of the topics that your child will be learning is given below.

Year Group	Content to be covered	
Year 7	Unit 8: Angles	
	Unit 9: Sequences	
Year 8	Unit 8: Calculating with Fractions	
	Unit 9: Fractions Decimals and Percentages	
Year 9	Unit 9: Probability	
	Unit 10a: Pythagoras' Theorem	
	Unit 10b: Trigonometry	
	Teacher: Mr Murphy, Mr Davey & Mrs Emeleus	Teacher: Mr Preece, Mrs Dobson, Miss Etheredge, Miss Motti
Year 10	Unit 9a: Quadratic Equations or Ratio	Unit 9: Ratio and Proportion
	Unit 9b: Simultaneous Equations	Unit 10a: Pythagoras' Theorem
	Unit 10: Further Probability	Unit 10b: Trigonometry

Should your child struggle with any of their Sparx Classroom lessons over the coming weeks, they should get in touch with their classroom teacher who will be happy to support them.

ClassCharts Well-being Module

In order to track more closely the well-being of our students at this difficult time, we will be asking them to report back to us at least once a week via the ClassCharts Well-being module, either on their phone or their device. Students will be asked to select from a series of options to let us know how they are feeling, and they can also leave a comment as well. This will enable our pastoral team to use the results to offer support where necessary.

Students should already have the ClassCharts App on their phone or device, however for those who do not, they should download the App and enter their personal code, which will be sent to them next week via their school email address.

I would like to close this letter by joining Moira Marder, Chief Executive Officer of the Ted Wragg Trust, in thanking you all for your patience, support and understanding during these challenging times. Her message to parents and carers is available in full on our website.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Aimee Mitchell, Headteacher