



Bexley Grammar School
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A Specialist Language College
and IB World School
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Dear Parents,

A brief update: remote learning clarifications, reporting sickness, newsletters, forthcoming events.

Our main focus last week was to work with teachers and students to continue to work towards a manageable balance for remote learning. I have attached two documents to keep you informed. One is a FAQ document for students which was sent to them last week and the other is an outline or framework of how each department is operating remote learning for their subject. I hope these give further clarification of our aims in trying to provide meaningful learning while not being able to teach directly. Please be aware that there are likely to be small variations in the reality of day to day working but I hope the overview supports you.

If your child is ill (ie. in normal circumstances you would not have sent them into school), please let the attendance office know by email: Years 7-11 (Mrs Jeffrey - jeffrey_j@bexleygs.co.uk) and Years 12-13 (Mrs Thomas - thomas_t@bexleygs.co.uk). The attendance office will then notify staff so that students are not chased for work when they are unwell. Please also alert attendance when they are recovered and can resume their studies.

Mr Martin has written to Year 11 students and Mr Auckland and Miss Roberts to Year 13 students, mindful that both year groups would have been having their last days in school around this time.

Some Year 10 and Year 12 students are worried about the examinations they would have been sitting in school now. Please reassure them that if the school reopens this term, that we will ensure that they have sufficient time to prepare for the rescheduled examinations. Obviously, this is very much up in the air at the moment, but if students follow the work that their teachers are setting them, there is no need to be worried.

Looking forward, as I said in my letter last week, if we do return to school this term at some point, it seems unlikely that any events involving large gatherings will take place until at least the autumn term. We will consider each exam and report round carefully in the weeks and months to come and do our best to be fair to students and their teachers while endeavouring to provide you with the most reliable assessment information that we are able to produce. We will need to be patient as we feel our way through this evolving situation.

As I've acknowledged before, we are all experiencing this extraordinary period in very different circumstances. Our key workers may be working longer hours and in more difficult conditions than ever before. Others may be working from home, on shorter hours, or not at all and able to spend time in their garden during the day. Those with more than one child and/or those who do not have

the privilege of their own garden are facing different challenges. Some of us continue to be paid, others have been furloughed or have lost income or even their jobs. We are doing our best to support everyone's circumstances through our remote learning but I know that the strain on some of you will be felt more keenly than by others.

Please do take time to read our continuing weekly Newsletters ([published on our website](#) if you have deleted the emails) and encourage your child(ren) to do the same. They are full of ideas to support your family in this lockdown, including staying fit and some superb, entirely free online courses, many of which are fully accredited.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SE Elphick', written in a cursive style.

Steve Elphick