

1st May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers; Staff and Students,

I hope that everyone is staying safe and well?

Following the Government briefing led by Boris Johnson on Thursday 30 April, I hope that we will soon be able to share more details about any potential return to school, following the publication of the Government 'road map' due to be released next week, a series of papers outlining the Government approach on how to safely and gradually restart the economy, and where school re-opening fits into this.

The senior leadership team are in school on a regular basis and we are currently planning the best and safest way to support our learners in returning to school when the time is right and to be very well planned and 'ready for action' is always the approach we take. The Trust is undergoing steps to ensure an appropriate and comprehensive risk assessment is in place.

The completion of ongoing work by our learners has been FANTASTIC and I thank all students and parents / carers for all you are doing to complete work set from home. However, can I also take the time to remind all that we would like students to do 'all they can', without the amount of work causing anxiety. That is not the school's intention and we appreciate that to take daily exercise; undertake family activities; have time with friends via social media platforms; etc is also vitally important.

The tasks set by staff on Show My Homework (SMH) at Giles Academy are now in excess of 3500! With SMH continuing to be monitored daily, with feedback and support offered to both students and departments on the quality; variation and quantity of work set.

We have had some questions this week about PPE mock exams and so I will use this opportunity to also share that there will be no internal examinations for the remainder of this year, this includes Year 10 and 12.

Instead, if we are able to return to school with some year groups in Term 6, we are planning for 'knowledge gap looks', informal tests / assessments which will take place mainly in class, to establish where our learners will need the critical intervention and support so that they can do their absolute best. This will be our approach whenever year groups return to school, with no expectation for revision, we will just want to see where the knowledge gaps are for each individual so we can bridge these.

Finally, please take the time to look at [#CovidTeenHeros](#) Twitter account, which shares some motivational and inspirational stories about the young people in Lincolnshire and check out the Giles Academy and SLATrust ART competition, the details for which are on the school website ... please remember this is open to students; staff and parents / carers, with the focus being on FUN!

Other things to offer thanks for is the Maths challenge that took place over Easter, which was a huge success and the ongoing 'Mr Castley's Family Fun Maths Night', which is proving popular with both students and parents!

Please remember that there are senior staff in school every day and we are always here to answer any questions, please email the school so we can respond promptly to all enquiries.

Kind regards

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

Katie Belcher
Deputy Headteacher