

King Edward VI Handsworth Wood Girls' Academy Church Lane, Handsworth, Birmingham B20 2HL

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16th June

Dear Year 10 students and families,

I hope this letter finds you safe and well.

It is well documented through emerging research that the impact of Coronavirus and the decision to close schools will have a longstanding impact upon the progress and ultimate attainment of all students, particularly disadvantaged and vulnerable students. As a school, we have tried all we can to mitigate this by providing newly purchased online resources, loans of laptops, work via firefly and from this week online tutorials as well as some onsite provision.

However, even with our best efforts, I was always clear that one of the greatest barriers to students fully benefiting and accessing these resources was the dedicated access students needed to their own device. I understand that many families will not have been able to provide their daughters in Y10 with sole access to a device because laptops/tablets already in the household are shared between other siblings or parents themselves.

To help ensure students in Y10 do not fall behind and fully benefit from our purchases of online textbooks and other resources we have purchased each student a Chromebook. There will be no cost or requirement for a deposit for students or families to receive these Chromebooks. These Chromebooks will be personal devices for students to use to complete their distance learning, TEAMs tutorials during our closure and any catchup learning the students will be assigned during the summer. In September students will retain sole use of these Chromebooks and be able to bring them to school to support their learning and continue to use them at home in preparation for their exams in summer 2021.

All Chromebooks have been set up so students can safely access the internet and all unsafe websites have been blocked to ensure student safety. All student internet searches will continue to be monitored using our filtering provider to again ensure student safety.

From Monday 22nd June students will be able to come to the Academy to collect their Chromebooks with their parents from W015 from 8.45 - 12.00. Social distancing measures will be maintained at all times. I would also like to request that if we have loaned you a laptop this is returned so it can be assigned to students in different year groups.

Yours sincerely

Mr Qamar Riaz Headteacher

Headteacher: Mr Qamar Riaz BA (Hons)

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