

Newsletter – 11th May 2020



Sheffield Park Academy
The best in everyone™
Part of United Learning

Dear Parents, Carers and Pupils,

Returning to School

As you will have seen, the government has announced that it hopes to re-open primary schools, beginning with Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 pupils after half term.

Although there is a lot of speculation in the media about what MIGHT happen in secondary schools before the end of Summer term, particularly with the current Y10 and Y12 pupils, there is no plan at this time for the return of secondary school pupils. If this position changes over the coming weeks we will ensure that we communicate any planning to you in advance.

Leaders in the school continue to work on ensuring that when pupils do return, it will be to safe, clean environments in which whatever social distancing measures recommended by the government can be implemented.

I would like to thank everyone – staff, parents and pupils – for the ways in which we have united across the school in responding to the situation so far and have ensured that our pupils have continued to learn from home. This has taken a great deal of time, effort, energy and patience on everyone's part, but we should be proud of what is being achieved.

I know that the current Year 11 and Year 13 pupils will be particularly anxious about the future and we will be making additional resources and support available over the final half term of the year to make sure that their progression into VI Form, Further and Higher Education is supported. If you have any pressing concerns or need specific advice and support, please don't hesitate to contact our CEIAG Leader, Ms Headford by email at info@sheffieldparkacademy.org

We are also working very closely with primary schools to make sure that the Year 6 pupils who would normally be joining us as 'early risers' in a few weeks' time are welcomed into the school 'virtually'. As plans for schools returning become clearer, we plan to supplement this with some activities for them on-site, although we do recognise that it might be late August or early September by the time this can happen.

We will, of course, be continuing to operate our online learning programme, which can be accessed at <https://www.sheffieldpark-academy.org/learning-from-home>. After half-term, there will be an increase in 'online teaching' and video lessons as we recognise the need to provide more bespoke learning and support for pupils' progress.

We have managed to secure funding for the next tranche of Chromebooks to go out to those students who will benefit from them most and are working to extend this offer further. It will be important for us to continue to offer online learning programmes long after all pupils return to school as it is vital that the learning gaps that will have opened up can be addressed. Please do contact us on info@sheffieldparkacademy.org if your child is having difficulties in accessing the online resources due to a lack of access to a suitable device.

All of us look forward to welcoming pupils back to school as soon as is safely possible. In the meantime, please keep safe and well, encourage your children to continue to participate in their online learning and keep following the government advice as it evolves.

Yours faithfully,

Mr C. Dillon,
Executive Principal

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Year 9 Options

The online options process is now closed. Work is now ongoing to collate all the information and allocate choices. Just a reminder that no guarantees can be made about offering first choices to all, but we will try wherever possible to allocate at least one of these. Your child will receive their final allocations next week.

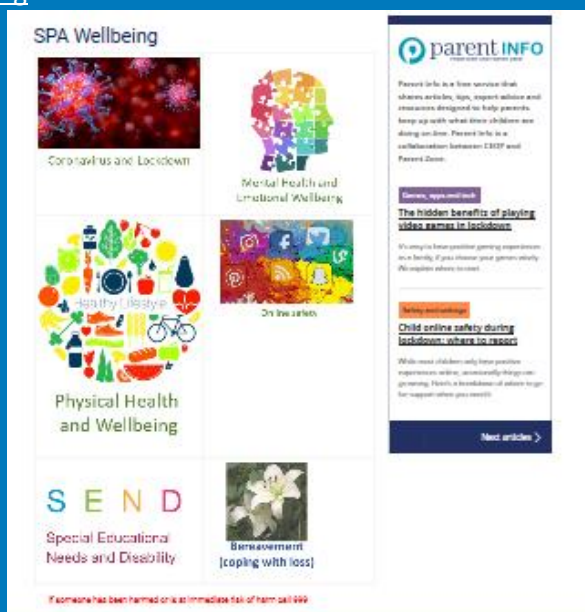
Sheffield South East VI Form - September 2020

Recruitment is now well under way for September for VI Form. Almost 100 students have accepted places. Teachers and the VI Form Team have been working really hard to ensure all our new students have plenty of information and subject resources to assist them in preparation over the summer months. We will be keeping regular contact with all our VI Form students (Year 11, 12 & 13) to ensure they are well, safe and have all the tools they need to move onto their next stage of education or training.

Emotional Wellbeing/Mental Health

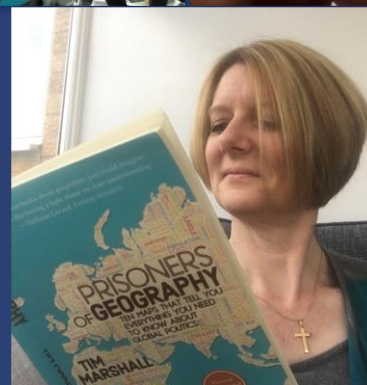
Please take a look at our amazing new Emotional Wellbeing/Mental Health Web Page. This has been developed by us with information from our wonderful colleagues at Healthy Minds and Unravel. There is lots of information and links to apps, helplines, websites, videos and activities designed to support your emotional health. There is also lots of information to help parents and to help parents to support you too. Take a look!

<https://www.sheffieldpark-academy.org/information/spa-wellbeing>



Reading

Reading is essential for students to develop the literacy skills they need to succeed at school and in their future lives. We have been sharing images of staff reading on our Twitter account (@SheffPark_Acad) to hopefully inspire everyone to join us and pick up a book.



Useful links

We are constantly updating our website with up to date information and links to other sites which may be of use.

Recent additions include:

<https://www.sheffieldpark-academy.org/information/special-educational-needs>

Think for the Future - [week 7](#)

Access our full website here

<https://www.sheffieldpark-academy.org/learning-from-home>