



12<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

The last half-term seems to have gone in the blink of an eye! This is undoubtedly due to the time we have spent investing in such a vast number of changes to our normal provision. Our teaching staff have thrown themselves into the unfamiliar world of remote learning and your daughters have responded fabulously. As well as the many pleasing comments coming in via our recently distributed parental survey; we have been genuinely touched by the very many uplifting comments received through email and telephone communications. Your kindness is really appreciated!

As well as starting the term getting to grips with TeachStream; we have been working incredibly hard to introduce our Lateral Flow Testing system for both staff and students. This has ensured optimal safety for those on-site with weekly tests being carried out for students and twice-weekly tests for staff. We are delighted to announce that our systems are working incredibly well due to the expertise of our fabulous Welfare Team. Please rest assured that the eventual full return of students will be undertaken with every determination to maintain such high current safety procedures whilst welcoming all our students back. We have really missed them!

In terms of returning to normal schooling; we have been given no indication of proposals over and above what you will have seen and heard in the media. My estimation is that a staggered return will be in operation with Year 11 returning to site first so that all schools can continue to gather assessment evidence prior to commencing a process of centre-assessed grading for GCSE results. This will work in conjunction with the ongoing programme of assessment we informed Year 11 parents/carers of last week. Those families should note that, unlike original proposals in January, we will not be initiating an immediate mock exam process, upon return to school, unless that return is much later than the start of the Summer term. Whatever the plans are, we will be ready to get back to our normal ways of working as seamlessly as possible. Whilst awaiting that 'green light' it would be really helpful if families could ensure that their daughter's school uniform is easily located and still fits! In the meantime, we will carry on with the current delivery of our traditional curriculum model via TeachStream. Our teachers are delivering their normal lesson content and are able to assess your daughter's work and commitment as previously. In view of this, we will be able to issue remote-learning Attitude to learning (ATL) reports at the end of the first week back. Please take time to discuss these with your daughter and congratulate her for her very positive buy-in, where appropriate, or discuss ways in which we can help to support her further if necessary.

There is currently a lot of online discussion about how students will need to catch-up with lost- learning in subjects such as mathematics and English etc. In my view, we are doing really well to keep levels of learning high in our students. From my perspective, children need to catch up with enjoying the company of their friends; engaging in our many enrichment activities and flourishing in our nurturing environment. My staff and I will be making every effort to ensure that happens safely when our students come back again in the near future.

I am pleased to highlight some good news which we have recently been made aware of:

- We are delighted to have been nominated for a national award in the Real-World Learning Recognition Awards. The Real-World Learning Recognition Awards recognise the efforts and actions shown by Frog schools throughout the pandemic. Davison CE High School for Girls has been nominated in the category of 'Great Engagement with Remote Learners'. This is a particularly exciting nomination for us, and we are eagerly awaiting the results that will be announced on Tuesday 2 March 2021. Watch this space!
- We have received an early indication of how well our PE students are doing in the Virtual Schools Games Week. Over 570 Davison students have entered. We are currently 1st place in the county in the 'Active Students' category. This category covers all primary and secondary schools. Further to this, we are currently top of the Southern League which monitors the activity levels of both students and adults. Keep up the great work girls!

As ever...the health and safety of our students is our number one priority. In view of this, please take some time to access the hyperlinks at the bottom of this communication.

All that remains is to wish you and your family the very best of continued health and happiness. Thank you so much for your unstinting support.

Yours faithfully

Mr Chris Keating  
Headteacher,  
Davison CE High School for Girls  
Selborne Road. Worthing,  
West Sussex. BN11 2JX  
01903 233835

### **Resources from Sussex Police**

Sussex Police have asked us to share resources that are available to support families during the pandemic in relation to children and young people including:

[yourpolice.uk](https://yourpolice.uk) – Instagram channel for young people to ask questions and find out more about the law and policing.

[www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/) - on-line safety advice for parents

[www.activesussex.org/activeathome/children-and-young-people/reboot-activesussex-activity-schedule-2/](http://www.activesussex.org/activeathome/children-and-young-people/reboot-activesussex-activity-schedule-2/) - free on-line physical activity sessions for young people during this lockdown

[www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/childrens-mental-health/](http://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/childrens-mental-health/) - support and advice for parents on how to help keep young people's mind stay mentally healthy.

[www.safespacesussex.org.uk/](http://www.safespacesussex.org.uk/) - provides an online directory of local victim and witness specialist support services.