



12th June 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

This week, the staff at The Garibaldi School have received some training on software which should allow us to facilitate some video lessons and one to one tutorials with students.

From Monday, staff will be developing lessons for students in Years 7, 8 and 9 which provide some spoken input which will help to guide students thought the work being set either through teams or via our website.

For Year 10 and 12 students, if parents requested it, mutually convenient appointments have been made with teachers for 1-1 subject clinics to support GCSE/A Level students. Unfortunately this cannot be widened to other year groups at the moment.

To develop the provision further, we are looking at how we may be able to open other areas of the site up to accommodate small groups of students or how we can provide online, webinar lessons to groups of students. Hopefully, the current indications from the Government are that we may be able to resume school as normal in September; we wait to see and hear the Government updates on this but fingers crossed.

I am really proud to include with this letter, our press release and copies of certificates we have been awarded from the Schools, Students and Teachers Network, who we receive our Leading Edge accreditation from, in recognition of our excellent results from the summer. This is national recognition for the hard work and effort from all students last year, for the hard work of the staff and for the support and contribution that parents and the community make to The Garibaldi School.

At this point each year we reflect on our successes and what we need to do to our systems and processes to ensure that the school continues to achieve good outcomes for students and that the school continues its journey to becoming an "amazing educational provider". This has been no different this year.

From September there will be some slight changes to how we plan and deliver lessons, how we ensure that standards improve further and how we ensure that students leave Garibaldi ready for the world that they face outside of the school gates.

Mr Hunt will be writing to you next week outlining some of the changes we are making in relation to school standards. In brief, we have reviewed our policies in relation to mobile phones and their use on site; we have reviewed our lunchtime procedures and will be introducing a system for ensuring that standards are high during unstructured time as well as lesson time. Further details will follow from Mr Hunt and we will clearly work with students to induct them on these new arrangements, hopefully in September.

From September the format of the timetable will change also. In order to ensure that students are exposed to a breadth of subjects and are given the time to study them in depth, for the majority of students we will be moving to a timetable of six, fifty minute lessons per day. The start and end time of the school day will remain the same.

There is a slight variation on this for students in Year 11 next year. Year 11 will follow a seven period timetable and therefore their school day will not end until 3:50. This is not optional for students and forms part of their timetable. Again, further details will follow on this but we have made this decision to ensure that we can maximise time with them in subjects that they may have missed over these last three months and to ensure we maximise their chances of success.

For students in Year 12 and 13, we have increased the amount of contact time students will have with teachers, again to ensure that we give a thorough provision given the demands of the courses studied.

It has been a pleasure to speak with some parents this week and to listen to some of the mentor conversations that have occurred.

Can I thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes



Mr J Aldred
Head of School