



19th June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

The Garibaldi School has gone viral! We now have our own Youtube platform.

Teachers have been working on video production over the last couple of weeks to support students with the work at home. Lessons and tasks will be set in the same way, through MS Teams and via the website. This will be supplemented with links to videos made by subject staff. Links will be provided via the work set to access the videos directly. However, if "The Garibaldi School Youtube Channel" is typed into Google, it will take you to our platform where the students should be able to navigate their way from there.

To complement this provision, this week for Year 10 and 12 students, we have been delivering 1:1 clinics in English, Maths and Science to give students some specialist input on what they have done so far and how to progress further. This seems to have been warmly welcomed. Next week, we start welcoming some small groups of Year 10 and 12 students into school to receive some specialist master classes, again in English, Maths and Science. We are really looking forward to seeing students again, in person. Hopefully this is the start of our return to a normal provision in September.

It seems that the majority of students and staff are now embracing the new technologies and learning in a virtual world. I am really pleased how the school community has adapted to its use so swiftly. In terms of future planning, we are going to review our provision and look at how we can continue to embrace these technologies to support the students' journey through school. We have seen the opportunities it brings and feel that we can look to build on this further.

Over the next two weeks, we start our induction programme for the new Year 7 cohort from September. Although they cannot currently come onto site to undertake this, we want them to be as informed as possible in readiness to hit the ground running in September. It is worth noting that we have increased our number of students on entry to the school from 165 to 175 students each year from this September. This is to take into account the demand for school places at Garibaldi and grows the school community very slowly over the next five years, whilst still keeping the community feel.

We will also be holding a 6th form Induction event in July for students who have applied for a place to start in September. It is again worth noting that the Garibaldi has become a 6th form of choice for our own students and students from other local schools. Numbers in the 6th form have doubled over the last 3 years. Hopefully, over the coming year, we can review our provision and look to offer further courses to cater for this growing demand.

As always, it brings me great delight to be sent pieces of work produced by students that get sent to me from subject teachers. The quality, depth and thought that has gone into them is impressive. This week, I have been sent examples of not only work, but photographs and examples of what students have been doing in their own recreation time and hobbies that students have started since being in lockdown. I look forward to seeing these new found skills as abilities develop over the coming years.

Finally, The Achievement Leads for Year 7,8 and 9 have produced assemblies for the students in their year groups and these can be found on the year group pages of the website. I know the Achievement Leads are looking forward to seeing you again very soon, as we all are. Hopefully their words of wisdom, support and guidance will encourage students to keep doing their best for the final four weeks of this academic year.

My best wishes to you all, until next week...

Yours faithfully



Mr J Aldred
Head of School