



Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May

Dear Parents, Carers and Guardians,

I trust you are well and were able to enjoy the Bank Holiday weekend which already seems an age away!

### Online developments

You have my continued commitment that we are looking at ways to improve our online curriculum and care offer. Developments include:

- The trialling this week of online chat rooms for specific subjects. Whilst the first port of call remains the classroom teacher, these chat rooms are there to provide additional support for students. The platform is Microsoft Teams which students can access through their office 365 accounts. Mr Powell will be writing to you separately regarding this.
- The publication of the "Bridgewater High Feedback Timetable" that details when assessments are taking place and where feedback will be given. Mr Powell will be referencing this as well when he writes to you.
- The introduction of forums where students can discuss topics with other students facilitated by teachers. These sessions will be called "Bridgewater Talks on....." and the intention is to host these through Microsoft Teams. The first of these will be available to years 7 & 8 and will link to our activities as part of our "Mental Health Awareness Week". Mr Roberts will be writing to you separately giving you details of how we are supporting this very timely national initiative. The theme is "The Act of kindness".
- Focused online support for some of our more vulnerable students.

### Opening to Y10 students

Another key area for us is planning to open the school for Y10 following the Government's announcement at the weekend. Logistically this presents some challenges but I have no real concerns regarding this. Where we have a greater challenge is around ensuring a safe school environment that manages social distancing effectively. Guidance is coming out on a daily basis from the Government and within TCAT and Warrington LA we are looking to establish some common principles and procedures. A significant amount of work is being undertaken with regards to this and I can assure you that as soon as we are in a position to provide more detail we will. However, whilst a lot can happen between now and June, rest assured that the overriding aim is that when students come in, they have a meaningful educational experience undertaken in a safe and secure environment.

### Further updates

I have already said that next week Mr Roberts will be leading out with our pastoral leaders the Mental Health Awareness week. One area he will reference is the Bridgewater 2.6 Challenge and it was with great pride that we were able to present a cheque for £500 to the Warrington Foodbank. If you want to find out more, especially in terms of what Hannah has done, please follow this link:

<https://www.warrington-worldwide.co.uk/2020/05/12/hannahs-all-heart-helping-raise-over-500-for-charity/>

Hopefully you will appreciate that whilst we seek to improve our online curriculum offer we will always remain committed to our online care offer. As a reminder, if you have any welfare concerns please email

[welfare@bridgewaterhigh.com](mailto:welfare@bridgewaterhigh.com)

Finally, thank you for your ongoing support and the efforts you are all putting in. We will emerge stronger from this- I am convinced of that. In the meantime, take care and stay safe.

Regards

Tim Long