



25th March, 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Distance Learning – Update

As you know, the very high volume of students using Firefly across the country has meant that some children have experienced problems logging on at certain times during the day. From our analysis of the situation we believe that this problem will ease over time. Therefore, we will continue to use Firefly and review the situation again at the end of next week.

We are aware that many students are getting over-whelmed with learning tasks and many now have a backlog, which is causing anxiety for some students. In order to ease this situation:

- We have asked teachers not to set any further tasks for KS3 students until next Monday 30th March
- We have asked teachers not to set any further tasks for KS4 or KS5 students until next Monday 30th March, unless the teacher has not yet set a task for their subject this week, in which case one task will be set
- We will amend the instructions and guidance given to teachers, so that from Monday 30th March onwards the frequency and amount of learning tasks will reduce
- We ask you to share the information in this letter with your son or daughter and encourage them not to worry, even if they are unable to access a task or if they are unable to complete a task to the standard that they would like by the deadline given.

I hope you understand that teachers are working hard to support our students, and they are trying their very best to do the right thing. However, this new way of delivering education involves a steep learning curve - for staff as well as students. Please bear with us as we navigate this new territory. We will continue to adapt our approach, as necessary, in order to improve the experience for our students.

Thank you for your patience and understanding. I will continue to update you as the situation evolves. Please also check the "School Closure" section on the home page of the school website for the latest information.

I wish you and your family the best over the coming weeks.

Yours faithfully,

Ms Janet Sheriff
Executive Headteacher