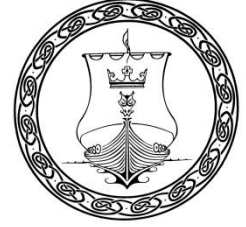




# Queen Elizabeth II High School



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HEAD: Ms. S. M. MOORE, B.A., M.B.A.

16<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope that you are well and coping under the current restrictions. Thank you to all of you for all your care and support for your children and the many kind messages you have sent in to school.

Thank you to those of you who have informed the school if any of your children have tested positive. We are not informed by anyone else and it is helpful to know, especially if it means they are less able to engage in remote learning, so we can make sure you don't get badgered by teachers chasing work. Some of the staff have also tested positive and are trying to keep up with their teaching commitments. I do hope that people don't suffer too badly and make a quick recovery. As we progress through the circuit break, I hope the risk of contracting the virus will reduce, especially if we all stick to the rules.

You will have heard from the media briefing that the circuit break has been extended until the end of March and that we are still unable to open any hub at school. This is the message we have been asked to share: *'As we continue to hit the peak of daily cases, the Department of Education, Sport and Culture has reviewed the latest data and how infection is currently spreading particularly among our children and young people. It has therefore been decided that now is not an appropriate time to reopen any childcare provision. The safety of our young people and our wider community has been and continues to be of paramount importance. The Department will continue to work with teachers and childcare providers to plan for a phased reopening of facilities as soon as it is safe to do so. We apologise for any disruption this is causing to working families especially those of critical workers'*.

The exam boards are starting to send more information about the kind of evidence needed to arrive at Centre Determined Grades this summer. DESC has set up a central information site with FAQ for students and parents. It is found at <https://signposts.sch.im/>. As previously mentioned, I would encourage all students in Years 11, 12 and 13 to continue to engage in their learning as much as possible. Your teachers are doing their best to make sure you are prepared for any assessments we may need to do next term and that no one is disadvantaged by the situation we are all in.

I do appreciate how hard this is for everyone. It is the first time in 22 years that I have not been able to go into school and it feels very strange. We need to support each other as much as we can. Spending all day in front of a computer is hard and I find it helps to take a break and get some fresh air, even if only in the garden. For those of you who are able to get out for a walk, that is great. If you are housebound, some form of exercise is really important and regular breaks are essential. I hope that the morning tutor time is helpful for keeping the children in touch with each other too.

Thank you again for your support. Let us know if you need anything more from us. In the meantime, take care and stay safe.

Yours faithfully,

Sue Moore  
Head