

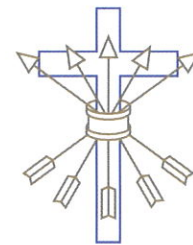
# WADDESDON CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

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Headteacher: **Matthew Abbott**



20<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you can imagine, today school has had a strange feel to it. The students have been in a semi-limbo, working purposefully, but with a sense that the world has suddenly changed for them in the same way that it has changed for everyone in the UK.

We celebrated with Year 11 and 13 what for some of them will be their final day in school; there were tears, laughter and a sense that whatever happens, they will always be connected to Waddesdon. Although there is only speculation at the moment about what will happen with external examinations, we will communicate the correct information when it comes through to us. Our broad advice to these, and all students, is to continue to work and learn. Whatever form the assessments or allocation of grades takes, there is sense in continuing to complete work set. This will also benefit the students in the longer term, whether their thoughts are turning to A Levels, college courses, university or other routes after school.

I would encourage you to continue to talk openly with your child about their feelings, frustrations and the uncertainty of the next few weeks and months. In my Year 11 class this morning, we talked about the big question "What's the point?" You would have been impressed by the depth of their thinking and their understanding of the wider situation in which we find ourselves.

We will continue to communicate with you and to support you, as we always strive to do. You can really help us by supporting the work that is set on Show My Homework and following the Government advice that, if it is at all possible for children to stay at home, then they shouldn't come to school. Our priority is to support specific vulnerable students and those whose families can't continue their critical work if they need to care for their children. Our resources will be stretched so your support is genuinely appreciated.

Finally, thank you for the many messages of encouragement, the good wishes and the response to our requests to support the whole school (and national) effort. I am truly grateful to parents and carers for all that you have done and recognise the sacrifices and changes that we will all need to continue to make in the foreseeable future. As we said to the students today, let's continue to "do good" and to help one another.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matthew Abbott', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Matthew Abbott  
Headteacher

R:HeadAdmin/Ltrs19-20/Prnts200320