



28th May 2021

Dear Parents & Carers

Headteacher Update

We hope this letter finds you and your family well.

The return from lockdown has been challenging for students, parents and staff alike. Thank you for all your support since our return. We continue to value parents working closely with our team.

Good mental health and wellbeing are more important than ever in these challenging times. Our Pastoral team are 'mental health first aid' trained and are here to support your child should they find themselves struggling. Please find links to helpful resources and support at:

The NHS Every Mind Matters website - www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/ or for additional advice visit - <https://youngminds.org.uk/find-help/for-parents/supporting-your-child-during-the-coronavirus-pandemic/>

Our Year 11 students have been working exceptionally hard to complete subject assessments. The challenge that students currently face with their assessments is comparable to any normal examination year. Consequently, they should be rightly proud of their efforts this term and we are confident that this will be reflected within their GCSE outcomes. Year 11 will continue to work towards their Centre Assessed Grades (CAG's) up to and including the 18th June – their final day with us at Marshland. It is imperative therefore that they attend school every day.

Since return from lockdown, we have noticed that school attendance has still not recovered to levels seen prior to COVID. One of the greatest gifts we can give to any child is a high quality education. It is therefore imperative that your child attends school regularly and we ask for your support to ensure this happens. They should be aiming to have an attendance of no less than 96% over the academic year. Research evidence shows student achievement, progress and ultimately GCSE outcomes are typically lower where attendance drops below 96%.

We recognise that our students have had very limited opportunities to engage in extra-curricular activities inside and outside school. As society reopens towards a new 'normal' we would like you to know that we will be doing our very best to re-establish enrichment opportunities for students. To start this off, we are arranging a surprise opportunity in July, and will share more information with you week commencing 21 June!

Don't forget, to keep up to date with the latest school news please visit our social media: <https://twitter.com/MarshlandHS> and https://www.instagram.com/marshland_high_school/

We hope you and your family have a restful and enjoyable half-term break and we look forward to our all students returning on Monday 7 June.

Yours faithfully
Mr Craig Jansen
Headteacher