

14<sup>th</sup> May 2020

## MAY UPDATE LETTER 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Last term began just prior to the country going into lockdown and we had only one week with students before everyone retreated to their homes to follow the 'stay at home guidance'. As a school we have worked hard to support families throughout the last seven weeks of lockdown. The school has remained open for vulnerable and children of key workers in term-time, throughout bank holidays and during this school holiday. A voucher scheme has been set up for students in receipt of free school meals to ensure that students continue to be provided for whilst at home. Keeping in-touch programmes are in place for students who need it and regular contact is made with these families. The greatest challenge has been to put in place a remote learning system. As a school we were able to respond to this quickly and as the weeks have progressed we have refined this process and introduced new sessions such as tutor-times and whole-school assembly. The home learning section of our web-site is updated regularly and there you will find the assignment calendars, enrichment tasks, technical information and well-being support.

We are keen to continue to celebrate our students and we have a fantastic summary of some of their achievements in our CTS Snapshot Home Learning Edition which can be found on our website and on Twitter. We have some further details below regarding home learning and safeguarding:

### Home learning

During the two week break there is no expectation for students to be completing home learning tasks. However, we understand that some students would prefer to keep busy during this time as, during lockdown, they may be prevented from undertaking their usual holiday activities. Therefore, there will be optional enrichment activities set by each subject in Microsoft Teams should your child want to engage with this. Please note, there is no option for this work to be 'turned in' as teachers will not be available to feedback during this time. The activities set should all be straightforward and self-explanatory, but should you require technical assistance with these tasks, the home learning team can still be contacted at: [homelearning@corbytechnicalschool.org](mailto:homelearning@corbytechnicalschool.org). For further ideas about activities to do at home, see the Enrichment page on the Home Learning section of our school website, which contains several suggestions and links to websites that offer a wide range of activities. You will also find information on this page about our Virtual Sports Day that was launched last week.

### Safeguarding

We are hoping that everyone is staying safe during the lockdown period. We have several resources on our website that aim to support children and their families that cover a wide range of topics including online safety, mental well-being, domestic violence and bereavement. If you have any concerns about your child please contact the school on [enquiries@corbytechnicalschool.org](mailto:enquiries@corbytechnicalschool.org) and one of our safeguarding team will be in touch. Further safeguarding details can be found on the website

For our families the last few weeks will have brought about many changes and challenges to the way you live, and inevitably, some worries and anxieties. We would like thank you for all of the support that you have given to the

school in helping your children with their education at home, when we are only able to provide for them remotely. If there is anything else that you feel we could do to help you, please let us know by e-mailing [enquiries@corbytechnicalschool.org](mailto:enquiries@corbytechnicalschool.org).

The government announcement given on Sunday has outlined some plans for children and education. We would like nothing more than to see the students back in school, however, our priority will continue to be the safety of students and staff. As soon as we have more information, we will share this with you and I am sure you can appreciate the situation changes regularly. The CEO for the Brooke Weston Trust, Dr. Campbell, has posted a notice on our school website for all parents/carers, please continue to use our website to view any updates.

Wishing you all the best of health.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Reynolds', written in a cursive style.

Angela Reynolds  
Principal