

Friday 1st May, 2020.



Penketh High School

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for your ongoing support and words of encouragement over the last few weeks. It's been an extremely difficult period for everyone so we really appreciate you taking the time to forward these kind words. We're striving to provide pupils with the best ongoing provision possible, both from an academic perspective and in terms of their wider holistic development. For parents to recognise the work of staff in adapting to the current situation to is greatly appreciated.

Parents will know that our expectation is for pupils to follow their normal school timetable, logging into Teams to take part in interactive sessions and complete work set on a lesson by lesson basis. We have set curriculum criteria for this half term and pupils will be set assignments through Teams to allow them to pull their learning together over the next few weeks. For more information please see the curriculum bulletins available on the website, <https://www.penkethhigh.org/curriculum-bulletin/>. If pupils have trouble accessing their school Office 365 account or accessing the resources set each day by their teachers please contact remotelearning@penkethhigh.org for assistance.

This week we also issued our second Enrichment Bulletin which provides pupils with a wider range of learning and enrichment opportunities to extend our academic offer and these focus on aspects we would usually deliver in school but are, for obvious reasons, unable to do so at this time. This is issued to pupils via Teams each Monday and is also placed on the school website; the edition from this week can be found at <https://www.penkethhigh.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Enrichment-Issue-2-27th-April.pdf>. This document also provides links to resources that can help support the wellbeing of our pupils during what is likely to be a troubling and confusing time for them.

One strand of our enrichment provision is our careers information and guidance. Parents will know that we've already made remote careers appointments available to our pupils, but next week we are pleased to be able to offer our first Penketh High School virtual careers day on Wednesday 6th May. All information is being sent out to pupils on Teams. The programme for the day has been attached to this letter for your information.

The sessions consist of video presentations with live Q&A for students and parents. The link to join the event is <https://learnliveuk.com/penketh-high-school-virtual-careers-day/>. You can register ahead of Wednesday's event by watching the test video, this will save time on the day. For information on the text function that allows you to interact with the sessions by asking questions, please see the help video available through this link <https://vimeo.com/405789305>.

The day will consist of sessions from local colleges and employers as well as universities and we hope this is the starting point for a discussion about our students' next steps. Later in the year we will be asking pupils to choose their career cluster for next year and so experiences such as those available to pupils on Wednesday and future events will help inform their choices. Prizes, such as £10 and £20 vouchers, will be available throughout the day and make sure you watch out for the quiz at the end. Staff will also be available on TEAMS to answer queries, but if you have follow up questions following the careers day event you can email imusgrove@penkethhigh.org; or if you would like a remote careers guidance appointment email careersappointment@penkethhigh.org to arrange a telephone interview.

PART OF THE CHALLENGE ACADEMY TRUST | NURTURE | CHALLENGE | ACHIEVE

THE CHALLENGE ACADEMY TRUST C/O PRIESTLEY COLLEGE, LOUSHERS LN, WARRINGTON WA4 6RD. COMPANY NUMBER 10689247

Penketh High School, Heath Road, Penketh, Warrington, WA5 2BY

Tel: 01925 722298 Fax: 01925 723812 e-mail: principal@penketh.warrington.sch.uk Website: www.penkethhighschool.co.uk

Principal: Mr J Carlin BA(Hons) NPQH



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



International School Award



Healthy School



INVESTOR IN CAREERS



AMBASSADOR SCHOOL





It's important to note that as the Careers event will be running throughout the day, like a virtual field trip, normal lessons for pupils will not be running via Teams on Wednesday. Lessons will resume as normal on Thursday.

The wellbeing of our pupils remains our greatest priority and parents will be aware that form tutors have been contacting families of pupils in their form. Please rest assured that the purpose of these calls is simply to touch base, keep the lines of communication open and ask if there is anything we can do to support in the coming weeks. The dialogue between school and our families has been exceptionally positive and I'm pleased that in many cases we've been able to resolve issues that have arisen.

We have issued a wellbeing pack today that includes lots of information and guidance on how to support young people at such a difficult time; parents can access this via our school website at <https://www.penkethhigh.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Parent-wellbeing-pack-PHS.pdf>.

If you do have any concerns about your child please do not hesitate to contact the school using the email address welfare@penkethhigh.org.

We've been pleased this week that we have been able to issue some good news. Firstly in relation to the Year 11 prom. We've been able to rearrange the event for the 25th of September on a provisional basis. Of course, pupils will not be attending Penketh at that point but we wouldn't let them leave without an opportunity to come together again. They are an outstanding group of young people and it wouldn't be right if they were denied this opportunity to celebrate their time at school and their successes together. We'll keep parents and pupils informed.

We've also been able to celebrate an incredible total of Going for Gold postcards that have been issued to pupils. Since we returned to school last week, following the Easter break, we've issued over 400 digital postcards and this is a reflection of the wonderful work that pupils have been producing. Congratulations to all pupils in receipt of a post card, you thoroughly deserve this recognition for your continued commitment to your studies and your future success.

I'd like to wish you all the very best and hope that you and your families remain in good health.

Yours sincerely,

Mr J Carlin
Principal.

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Penketh High School Virtual Careers Day 6th May 2020

All presentations and speakers will be on this site

<https://learnliveuk.com/penketh-high-school-virtual-careers-day/>

see below for the timings of the day and the next pages for more instructions

All the videos will be uploaded the next day if you miss a session

Time	Presenter	Session
9.30 – 9.45	John Carlin & Ian Musgrove	Welcome presentation – 1. set expectations 2. challenge to collect information for quiz at end of day
10.00 – 10.30	Lucy Williams	Mock interviews
10.30 – 11.00	Ian Musgrove	Virtual break time—(On you TEAMS)
11.00 – 11.30	Lucy Williams	All you need to know about HE & student finance
11.45 – 12.00	Bridie Mills	Driveworks—Automation Software
12.00 – 12.45		Lunch break
12.45-1.00	Ian Cotrill & Chloe Tatton	Franklyn Financial Management— Working in finance
1.15 – 1.30	Scott Austin & Team	Apprentify—How to get an apprenticeship
1.45 – 2.00	Adam Bird & team	All about Priestley
2.15 – 2.30	Melissa Turk	Cronton/Riverside – vocational courses and employability skills
2.45 – 3.00	Rachel Brookes	Harper Adams University
3.00 – 3.15	Lucy Williams	Launch pop quiz

A huge thank you to all our presenters who are giving up their time to be a part of this day, it is much appreciated by the school and our students