

Ramsey Grammar School Scoill Ghrammeydys Rhumsaa

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Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that you have had a lovely Easter. We have certainly enjoyed a full range of fog, wind, rain and even snow whilst at times also enjoying brilliant sunshine! I am sure that you have been frustrated at the continuing lockdown and it says something that, at a time when we should be going out and enjoying a variety of post winter hibernation activities, we have in fact been more occupied with super-yachts and, only this morning, rumours of wallabies at the Hairpin!

You will have listened to the Government briefing on Thursday which indicated that staff would be returning to school on Monday 12th April. This is to allow preparation of the school and resources having been excluded from the site for over five weeks. As you will be aware from the Government briefing, within all secondary schools, Year 11, Year 13 and Year 14 are being prioritised during the next week of a phased return. Included with this letter you will find details of the particular timetabled sessions when students in Years 11, 13 and 14 will be invited into school for face-to-face lessons with their teachers. It is not an easy situation to organise and we also must bear in mind the restrictions that will remain in place in terms of social distancing and face coverings. In essence Year 11 will be split into two halves, that is ABC and RSV, and they will attend lessons within these 'bubbles'. Year 13 and Year 14 will attend each of their option subjects for half a day as per the schedule attached and we also intend completing mock exams that have been prepared for but not completed in the week of lockdown. We are aware that, as the buses continue to run on a holiday timetable next week, students usually using the 19 or 20 services for school may find no service available to get to school. If this is the case and you would like us to contact Bus Vannin to request an additional service, please contact us via RGSEnquiries@sch.im . We cannot guarantee that any provision will be possible however we will certainly make any request as required.

Clearly in the prioritisation and face-to-face teaching of these year groups there is a need to understand that our remote learning provision will look a little different this next week than it did prior to Easter. Your feedback has once again endorsed the provision that we made during March however, for this next week we must ask that you understand much of the online remote provision will be in the form of independent work and may not include live contact with teachers via Teams. However, all work should still be accessed via subject Google classrooms and students should also endeavour to register as usual via the RGS website.

Again for parents of students in Years 11, 13 and 14, you have previously been directed to the website for current and up-to-date information regarding arrangements for alternatives to exams. Staff continue to be busy preparing for this important period of time up until the end of May when a lot of work will be taking place in class and there will also be a number of specific assessments that will contribute towards a final centre determined grade. As already indicated we will publish a detailed assessment timetable on 21st April.

I hope that as we return to school I will be able to include a lot more interesting updates about things that really matter to all of us; that is exciting learning and activities which students are enjoying in being close with friends once again.

I wish you all a great weekend and I will continue to keep you updated with any additional information. Thanks again for your support and fingers crossed that the data will allow the government to further ease restrictions over the next week.

Graeme Corrin Acting Headteacher