

26 March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Mr Beere has written to you with his recommendations for effective support for your home-schooling missions. I know this is a new experience for a lot of us. From today, the senior leadership team are on-site on a weekly rota basis, so this has been my first day of home-schooling my own children, while working from home.

The importance of us ensuring our children continue to work at home is critical to their education. Indeed, our role as parents/carers in our children's education has never been more important than now and probably never will be again.

If the Government does not re-open schools to all children until September, every child in secondary school will have missed just over 8% of their secondary education. For our students in Year 9 and Year 10, they will miss about 15% of their taught GCSE/BTEC courses, because the final term and a half of year 11 is usually focused on revision.

We are very fortunate that we run our GCSEs/BTECs over 3 years. If we had started the courses in Year 10, the proportion of the taught time missed would be even greater; it would have been 20% of the taught time, excluding revision.

Teachers at Oakmoor are setting work on SMHW to ensure that this time away from school has as little impact on students' progress as possible. All our tasks directly relate to the curriculum that students would be following if they were still in school. Every task is important.

It is also very important to keep good learning habits going while schools are closed.

The grades that students achieve when they leave Oakmoor will impact the sixth form choices, university choices and employment choices open to them. My aim has always been for young people to do as well as they possibly can so that they have maximum choices and opportunities in these areas and as much control over their working lives as possible.

This is why your role is so important. Thank you for your support of the work we are setting. We are fortunate to have very positive working relationships with our parents for the benefit of our students.

Good luck with the home schooling!

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P Hemmings'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'P' and a long, sweeping tail.

Mr P Hemmings
Headteacher