



NOTTINGHAM GIRLS' ACADEMY

We believe in creating a community empowered with the qualities, skills and qualifications to enter the next phase of life with confidence and ambition.

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29 January 2021

Dear parent and carers,

Firstly, I want to say a huge thank you to all of you for the incredible support you have given us in trying to make sure your children are online and doing their best with their learning in these really difficult circumstances.

Improving the Quality of Remote Learning

I hope, that by sticking to the timetable your children would normally follow in school, that we have provided some simple routine and structure. I also hope that some mistakes we made in the first week or two, that meant some pupils became overwhelmed by work, have now been rectified and that the work load for pupils is now appropriate. Finally, I hope that all of you working from home have been able to do so without really needing to provide any home schooling, because NGA staff are on hand to lend support themselves.

However, we appreciate that this might not be everyone's experience and that our best intentions might not be coming across how we hope. We would therefore really appreciate it if you could spend just a couple of minutes giving us some feedback on how our home learning offer feels to you:

[Home Learning Parental Survey](#)

We will separately be asking pupils to tell us their own thoughts through surveys next week.

Children's Mental Health Week

Next week is national Children's Mental Health Week.

At the start of the week, we will be sharing lots of resources with pupils that they can use to support their own wellbeing.

We also plan to provide some Catch-Up Time on the afternoon of **Thursday 4th February**.

There will be no live lessons on Thursday afternoon. Instead, pupils will be able to use the time to catch up with work they feel behind on or want to revisit - or they could use the time to focus on their own wellbeing. We will share a list of wellbeing ideas and activities that pupils can complete on their own.

Pupils attending our onsite provision will remain in school and will have the same opportunities.

There are also resources and information for families on the [Covid-19 Information Hub](#) on our website.

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- We strive to fulfil everyone's learning potential. • We value high standards, hard work and a ceaseless desire to improve.
 - We provide a safe, kind, nurturing and inclusive environment. • We enjoy the journey together.



Technology for Remote Learning

We aim to continue supporting and improving access to home learning with the loan of another 120 laptops and tablets to pupils over the next week.

Year teams will contact families directly with information on when to collect them.

For those that were eligible and asked us to, we have also requested free mobile data top-ups or dongles to try and improve internet connectivity for some pupils. If you need support with data, please discuss this with your child's HoY. We may be able to supply you with a free Vodafone data SIM while we wait for the government's support to begin.

Free School Meals

Families eligible for Free School meals should be receiving emails with voucher codes that they can redeem on the Edenred website in exchange for £15 of supermarket vouchers each week.

If you are not currently receiving free school meals but feel you might be eligible, please visit the [Nottingham City Council website](#) for details on how to apply.

Children entitled to free school meals will be sent voucher codes for half term week.

Half Term

Half term is the week of the 15th February 2021.

There will be no provision on site for Vulnerable Pupils or the children of Critical Workers during that week. Any children that have attended onsite provision during the week before half term that subsequently test positive for Covid-19 will need to inform the school via a form on the NGA website.

Return to School

We still do not know exactly when pupils will be allowed to return to school. The government have told us that they will give us more information on Monday 22 February about whether a return on Monday 8 March will be possible.

In the meantime, I hope that you and your loved ones remain fit and healthy – both physically and mentally. Please continue to take care.

Yours faithfully,



David Tungate

Principal

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