



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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 @NottmGirlsAcad

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Dear parents and carers,

As one of the most extraordinary half-terms I have experienced comes to an end I wanted to write to say thank you!

I am exceptionally proud of our pupils, parents and staff for the way they have managed remote learning this half term. There is no blueprint for how to do this – we have had to learn and adapt and refine as we have gone along. This has required resilience, patience, determination and hard work from everyone concerned.

Our approach has been to keep the structure and routine of our 5-period day so that everyone knows what is expected of them and when, and that teachers are always on hand to take the pressure off parents at home.

We know that the workload overwhelmed pupils at bit at the start of the term and I hope you would agree that things have improved in this regard. We have encouraged teachers to give them more lesson time to complete work and this appears to be helping everyone.

The dedication that our pupils have shown has been a real credit to them. It would be so easy to give up or allow themselves to be distracted by other things, but the vast majority have remained focused, driven and worked ever so hard.

I am well aware that many parents and carers have other commitments at home – younger children, elderly relatives, the pressure of working from home, to name but a few – and I wanted our remote learning to reduce the additional pressure of home schooling as much as possible. Nevertheless, many of you have done an incredible job helping us solve IT issues and keep your children motivated and engaged. I am very grateful to you for this – you have helped to make sure your children keep learning and make progress. I am sure they will benefit from this in the future.

I think we can agree that we all now need a break! It is not easy to find things to do while we are living with these restrictions but hopefully the following websites can provide some inspiration:

www.smallstepsbigchanges.org.uk/news/family-lockdown-support-and-ideas
www.parkdeanresorts.co.uk/discover-more/discover/fun-things-for-kids-to-do/
challengenottingham.co.uk/activities-for-children

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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.



There are also a few additional notices I wanted to give:

Onsite Provision for Vulnerable Pupil and the Children of Critical Workers

This will resume on site on Monday 22 February.

If you are a critical worker and would like your child to access this provision you will need to register by using the [Critical Worker Registration Form](#) on our website by noon on Friday 19 February. (There is no need to do this again if you have already registered for the week beginning 22 February.)

Track and Trace

If your child has accessed on-site provision this week and unfortunately tests positive for Covid-19 during the half term holiday, please let us know via the [Reporting a Positive Case of Covid-19 form](#) on our website so that we can ensure any close contacts and their families are informed.

Extra Support for Families

The Winter Grant Scheme is now open to Nottingham City residents in receipt of Council Tax Support, with or without children. With rising food costs, we hope this extra support will ease the strain on some families to help them through these difficult times.

10,000 vouchers are currently available as part of this scheme and selected applicants will be chosen on a first-come-first-serve basis. The scheme ensures successful applicants are issued with a £50 supermarket e-voucher to help with food and essential supplies. If you need support during this difficult time and believe that you qualify, please find out more including how to apply using the website link below.

Also, you may know other friends and families who might benefit from this support so we would encourage you to pass this information on to anyone who this scheme could support.

Who is not eligible?

Residents that are currently in receipt of the following benefits are NOT eligible for this grant:

- Means Tested Free School Meals
- Support Grant from HMRC/Local Authority
- Self-Isolation Payment.

Find out more including how to apply at [Covid Winter Grant Scheme](#).

I hope you and your family can enjoy a safe and relaxing half-term break.

Yours faithfully,



David Tungate
Principal
Nottingham Girls' Academy

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