



3rd April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

End of Spring term – April 2020

I do not need to remind parents that the past two weeks have been extremely disruptive in all aspects of life, with school being no exception. Staff, students and families have had to adjust in a very short space of time to working remotely and to using online packages such as Show My Homework (SMHW). I know for some families, such as those with younger children, this can be a very challenging time. I would like to thank parents for their support in helping this system work smoothly. Student usage of SMHW has been very strong and this is a testament to the support from home. We are constantly reviewing the use of SMHW, and providing guidance to staff on aspects such as feedback, marking and appropriateness of tasks. It is clear that we will be relying on this system of remote working for some time, and we are keen to ensure that the experience for students is as strong as it can be.

Our planned end of term arrangements have obviously had to be cancelled. Subject teachers had planned and were looking forward to hosting our GCSE and A Level Easter Revision school, which is now no longer possible or necessary.

Today is the last day at Brookfield for Mrs Long, who has taught Graphics and Technology at Brookfield since 2008. Mrs Long takes up a new post at a Nottinghamshire school after Easter and I would like to thank her for her contribution over the past 12 years at Brookfield and to wish her every success in her new role.

GCSE/A Level grades

You will be aware that Ofqual intends to award grades this summer by use of a 'calculated grade'. Further information has been published by Ofqual today. Guidance for parents and students can be found [here](#).

The methodology of the calculated grade is yet to be released. Ofqual make it clear that there will be some mechanism to ensure school teachers are simply not providing the grades students will receive; there will be a statistical exercise of standardisation to ensure grades are fair between schools.

Note that Ofqual specifically requests that teachers should not provide parents or students with any information regarding grades that schools will be submitting. Ofqual has also today provided a message to students and this can be read [here](#).

School opening

School has been open for some students over the past two weeks, such as those whose parents work in critical sectors. Brookfield will be open during the Easter period for a group of identified students, as well as for the children of key workers who have requested a place. For any parents who work in critical sectors who have not requested a place, but whose circumstances may change during the next two weeks, please contact school on enquiries@brookfield.derbyshire.sch.uk.



The expectation is that school will remain closed for most students for the foreseeable future. We will therefore continue to set work remotely using online platforms such as SMHW. When we receive information regarding a likely date for our return to school, this will be communicated to parents.

Thank you once again for your ongoing support at this very unsettled time. I wish you and your family the very best over the Easter period.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mr Hirst', written in a cursive style.

Mr K Hirst
Headteacher