



12 June 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians, Students and Colleagues of Senior School & Sixth Form

With the news that Phase 5 is just around the corner, we find ourselves (happily), once again, adjusting plans for the end of the school year. We are delighted that key events and activities can now take place in the real, rather than virtual, world.

I am advised that there will be some detail made available from Education, Sport & Culture on Monday, so whilst this letter will outline broad principles, I will write again if there are areas which need further clarification.

In the meantime, we remain in Phase 4 for another week. Having listened to students, parents and our teachers, we will now set homework – where appropriate - for Remove, Lower Four and Upper Four. Lower Five and the Lower Sixth have been receiving homework since our return. I emphasise that this homework is entirely at the teacher's discretion and if it is set, it will follow the usual homework timetable and should be no longer than the specified amount of time; 20 minutes for Remove and Lower Four; 20-25 minutes for Upper Four.

The choice of mufti or uniform has achieved what we had hoped it would; helping the girls feel relaxed about coming back, avoiding having to buy new uniform for a month, making it easier to cycle and walk and, especially with the recent weather, being able sit in their outside bubble comfortably. This will continue.

From 22 June 2020, we will revert to our usual timings of the College day; finishing at 15:30 for Remove and Lower Four, 16:00 for all other year groups, and with everyone finishing at 15:30 on Fridays. This matches the changes which Elizabeth College will make for Phase 5, linked with lunchtime provision. Sixth Form arrangements to sign out to study at home will remain in place. We would ask you to contact us should there be difficulties at the end of the day with collection.

Our plans for a virtual Speech Day have been taking shape yet, if feasible, we are keen to reinstate our traditional Speech Day and Leavers' Service in the usual format - and we will be in touch to confirm arrangements shortly, pending guidance from Public Health linked to larger events. For these two occasions, I would very much like the girls to be in uniform, which is clearly contrary to one of the main (cost and replacement) reasons for the current option. We will talk to the girls about the feasibility of this and I am aware that the PTA do have some items, which I am sure they would provide where needed. We will aim to work together with you to make this acceptable and achievable and I will write again in due course. I am confident that we can find an acceptable way forwards.

We will resume the weekly bulletin next week and this will give you details of those events which we have managed to “catch up” to provide for the girls.

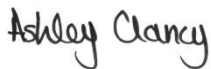
Unlike previous years, we will not have our Alternative Curriculum Week during the last week of term. We have identified times during this week for some of the House events at the time of writing. Logistics, time, energy and asking for additional money to cover costs, as well as lockdown circumstances, make it more sensible, achievable and sustainable for the girls to remain in lessons until Wednesday 1 July 2020. Our traditional Mark Reading and House Swimming events will complete the year, before our Speech Day rehearsal on Thursday afternoon and Speech Day on Friday 3 July, ‘hopefully’ at Beau Sejour.

Please see the details below and we will update you with further changes as appropriate.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
24 June 10.30a.m.	House meetings - Farewell & Welcome
25 June, 11.15a.m.	Senior House Rounders - U6, L6 & U6
29 June, PM	House Rounders - Remove & L4
30 June, PM	House Rounders - U4 & L5
1 July, Senior 08.30, Junior 11.15a.m.	Junior & Senior House Tennis

In closing this letter, may I once again thank everyone for their understanding and support. We have some actions to continue to work through, linked to lockdown, and please do not think that issues you may have raised are forgotten.

Yours sincerely



Ashley Clancy  
**Principal**