

29th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I think that it's fair to say that we are all looking for some level of certainty in these uncertain times. Whilst the Prime Minister's announcement that schools will not fully reopen until 8th March at the earliest only provides a small degree of clarity; we are pleased that getting children back to school as soon and as safely as possible remains at the forefront of the Government's agenda.

The idea of creating a plan for how children will return rather than when seems like a sensible approach at this point. I'm sure that any decisions will be driven by 'the science' and will be balanced to ensure that the needs of children are taken into account as well as those of the wider community. We very much look forward to seeing all children return.

Another pressing issue is the current consultations for the arrangements for GCSE, A Level and vocational subject grading this summer given that the examinations have now been cancelled. I have written to students, parents and carers this week to share the key proposals outlined in the consultation and highlight some of the implications. A copy of the letter can be found [[here](#)]. As stated in the letter it is essential that all students continue to work hard throughout the remainder of the academic year as (regardless of their year group) this will have a positive effect on their final outcomes. I will continue to update families regarding the outcome of the consultation and the school's response to it in due course.

Our options processes were launched remotely this week for students in Years 8 and 9 via the school website. At this stage I would ask parents and carers to watch the videos online, carefully read the relevant Options Booklet and start to have discussions with their child about potential subject choices. There will be a possibility to speak to individual subject teachers during the Parental Consultation Evenings, which will take place on Thursday 4th March (Year 9) and Thursday 11th March (Year 8). I would also like to remind parents and carers that the Year 11 Parental Consultation Evening takes place on Thursday 4th February.

After one or two technical issues we were delighted this week that our brand new canopies are currently being installed in the area of the school immediately outside of the new canteen. This is an important project given the fact that there were no permanent external areas for students to shelter at that end of the school quad, given the fact that three of our year group bubbles had been limited to that area of the school during our break times. The costs of the project exceeded £20k and was made possible by the finance that have been accrued through the Futures Fund. I would like to thank all families who have contributed to this fund over a number of years. These canopies, along with other facilities that we have been able to acquire under this funding will make a significant difference to our students for years to come.

Vyners School
Warren Road, Ickenham,
Middlesex, UB10 8AB
Tel **01895 234342**
Fax **01895 237955**

office@vynersschool.org.uk
www.vynersschool.org.uk

Mr Gary Mullings BA (Hons)
Headteacher

Vyners Art Department Review

The Art Department has produced a Review for January 2021 which showcases a small fraction of the incredible work that students (and staff) have completed at home. A copy of the Review can be found [\[here\]](#). I do hope that families enjoy this review of work. Our students have produced some wonderful work during this phase. My congratulations to all involved and thanks to the staff at the school as well as parents and carers for their incredible support and commitment.

Advanced Notice of Harvil Road Closure

We have received information from the HS2 group of companies regarding a planned closure of Harvil Road between 13 and 21 February. A copy of the information document can be found [\[here\]](#).

VLT Update

Both Field End Junior School and Hermitage Primary Schools have been associate members of Vanguard Learning Trust since the spring term 2021. I am delighted to inform you that both schools' respective governing bodies have made the 'in-principle' decision to join our Trust in September 2021; this date may, however, need to be reviewed, in particular because of the pandemic. The 'in-principle' decision is non-binding at this stage of the process; a final decision will be made once due diligence and stakeholder consultation have both concluded. I will provide the school community with updates on how matters are progressing in due course.

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely,



Gary Mullings
Headteacher