



1st April 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of an extremely unusual term, I must tell you how fantastic it has been to welcome all our students back on site for face- to-face education. Having said that I recognise that a large majority of this term was centred around remote learning and I feel proud of how our school community has worked together through this pandemic. We have all had to adjust to a new way of learning together remotely and then again to being back on site at SRS. I realise it has been a challenge to adapt your routines to the changes but you have done a remarkable job supporting our students in achieving as smooth a transition as possible.

GCSE and A Level: At the end of a term, I normally wish you a restful break and a good holiday, however for those of you with children in years 11 and 13 I realise there may be some anxiety about the awarding of A Level, GCSE and other qualifications. By now, you should be aware of some of the details around the awarding of grades and there has also been the recently published JCQ guidance for students and parents. Our students will start completing assessments on their return in the Summer Term which will build the evidence to be used to inform the grade that will be submitted to the exam board. It is important that these students are working over the holiday period to prepare for their final term.

Self-Testing over Easter: Students in years 7-13 should continue to self-test over the Easter Holidays. Tests should be taken twice weekly, three days apart and results reported to the NHS reporting service. If your child tests positive or develops symptoms between the 2nd April and 3rd April regardless of whether they are in the primary or secondary phase, please email the school at office@sydneyrussellschool.com The email must state your child's name, form group, the date that they first started feeling symptomatic and when the positive test result was received. If your child develops symptoms after Saturday 3rd April or tests positive after Sunday 4th April please follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.

Self- testing before returning to school: Self-testing is an important tool in identifying asymptomatic cases and keeping our school safe. I would ask all parents to ensure that their child is tested before they return to school on Monday 19th April 2021. For our primary children this will involve going to a testing centre on the Friday 16th or Saturday 17th April and for our secondary students doing a home test on either the Sunday evening or Monday morning before setting out to school. Your support is appreciated in doing this and enabling us to keep our children as safe as possible and in school and in reducing transmission of the virus in our community.



PARTNERSHIP LEARNING
THE SYDNEY RUSSELL SCHOOL
Excellence for ALL



Principal: Janis Davies B.A. | Address: Parsloes Avenue, Dagenham, RM9 5QT | Web: www.sydneyrussellschool.com
Email: office@sydneyrussellschool.com | Tel: 0203 959 9900

Self isolating: If your child is in years 7 to 13 has been self-isolating as the term ends and therefore not given further home testing kits, the school will be open on Tuesday 13th April between 9am to 12pm to enable you to pick some up.

New site entry arrangements: School starts at normal time on Monday 19th April. On the secondary site we ask that years 7, 8 and 9 enter and leave the school via the Main Entrance and the Atrium and that years 10, 11, 12 and 13 enter and leave via the green gates on the Sports Hall side.

And finally.... have a safe and restful break. Happy Easter to those families who will be celebrating this festival and Ramadan Mubarak to our Muslim families who will start Ramadan on 12 April.

Kind regards

Janis Davies
Principal