

Lincoln Castle Academy

24th March 2020

A letter to all Lincoln Castle Academy Students from Mrs Laming

Dear Students,

As your Headteacher I want to offer you some advice for the weeks ahead. I know many of you will have felt confused and even upset recently. We, the staff at LCA, have felt this way too. We miss the routine, the buzzy atmosphere of our academy and we miss you. We are all being asked to see the 'bigger picture' at the moment; this is not easy, but it is necessary. We are all learning what we truly value, and what is most important.

The Curriculum

Whilst it may initially seem exciting to be out of school, it is important to keep learning, not only for your future, but also because we thrive when we are investing in ourselves and growing. Your teachers are setting varied work on SMHW so you continue to learn. It is important to ensure your day has 3 elements:

MIND Learn. Study. Read. Reflect.	BODY Move!	SOUL Create & connect
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Begin the day with study using the work on SMHW.➤ Challenge your brain to learn something new.➤ Keep a log/diary of all that you are learning and achieving.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Follow the usual school morning routine beginning at 9am.➤ Avoid tv/gaming until later in the day.➤ Get outside if you can. Fresh air, and sunshine can be uplifting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Connect (safely) with others & look for ways to help.➤ 'Escape' into a fabulous book.➤ Enjoy being creative. Include arts/crafts/ music in your daily routine.

Year 11 and Year 13

You have had the greatest adjustment to make. You have missed out on important rites of passage; no shirt signing, triumphant farewells and no prom. But we need to reflect a little before we feel too despondent.

Whilst you will not sit final exams in the summer you must recognise one important thing. *You have received the education.* You have completed the courses. You have done hours of lessons, discussion, thinking, study, homework and assessments. The journey still counts even if the destination is rather unexpected! A final 90-minute examination is only a small part of the overall picture. You will receive your grades and your certificates and you absolutely deserve them. When the time is right we will celebrate together, with more sequins, sparkle and fun than ever before!

Your Superpower

In these uncertain times you can play a vital role. Use your smiles, laughter and kindness at home with your families and elderly relatives to sprinkle joy. Helping others instantly makes you feel useful and I know you will look to do this.

Times are tough...but so are you.

I invite you to keep us informed of your achievements - create a blog, photo diary or journal detailing how you have redirected your energy and email our Head of Year team: hoy@lincolncastleacademy.co.uk. Your teachers are nominating students for Headteacher Commendations; I look forward to awarding these every Friday. We plan to have a tremendous Rewards Week when we return to school, celebrating all the wonderful work you have completed and the positive ways you have used your time. Already I am hearing exciting tales of language learning, new instruments, gardening projects and acts of kindness. If you haven't put pen to paper yet, it is worth remembering that this period in history will be remembered for a long time and it needs recording in diaries. Another way to fill your time!

Wash your hands, stay at home, be kind and work hard!

Mrs Laming

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