



ORMISTON DENES ACADEMY

22nd January 2021

Dear Parent/ Carer

Although it is not for a few weeks, I would just like to remind you that Friday 12th February is a staff training day so there will be no online learning and our school will be closed for vulnerable students and those of key workers. We then remain closed throughout half-term and open again on Monday 22nd February. How the opening will look at present is anyone's guess but there will undoubtedly be a Government announcement before then regarding arrangements.

Students on site are working very hard and being extremely cooperative when doing their lateral flow tests. I do think that keeping safe is about everyone doing all the little things correctly so that it minimises the virus.

We are tracking student engagement and so far we are extremely pleased with the results, however there is (always) room for improvement. May I remind you that your child should be logging on for live lessons daily, as per their timetable. Your child can access these lessons via their Google Classroom and more details for parents can be found on our website [click here](#) for remote learning resources.

We understand the challenges associated with supporting your child with remote learning and are deeply appreciative of everything you are doing. If you feel that you would like some support with your own wellbeing at this time, there are a number of useful links and resources for parents/carers on our website at [student mental health](#) and [parent carer mental health](#), but this link will take you straight to various online and free resources <https://www.educare.co.uk/edusafe-pc>

We will be holding the first of our planned parent forum virtual drop in session for Year 11 parents on Wednesday 27th January 2021, from 3.15pm. Mr Cooper, Head of Year 11 and Mrs Calver, Year 11 Pastoral Manager, will be available to talk to you about any issues you may be having with homeschooling, and will also attempt to answer any questions you will have regarding the GCSE exams (although we are still waiting for Government clarification). If you wish to join this event please email Mr Cooper at ccooper@ormistonden.es.co.uk by 11am on Tuesday 26th January to ensure you receive a personal invitation to the event. Any questions you may have can also be emailed to Mr Copper in advance. A separate letter with full details about this will be sent to you later today. If this proves successful we hope to roll this out to parents of our other year groups.

During this lockdown the school nursing team continues to offer support and appointments by telephone, email and video call. Please contact school health by calling 0345 607 8866 (Monday to Friday, excluding Bank Holidays) or email childrenshealth@suffolk.gov.uk if you would like any support from the team.

We have been asked to remind all parents and students the many outside leisure facilities are closed, in line with Government guidelines and people must refrain from using them until they can be re-open safely for everyone. The facilities include skate parks, multi-use games areas, tennis courts, outdoor gyms and trim trails.



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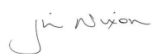
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Please continue to stay safe and have a nice weekend.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jim Nixon".

Jim Nixon

Principal