



Plymouth High School for Girls

"For life, not school, we learn"

15th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I do hope you are well and enjoying the recent spell of glorious weather.

I thought I would take this opportunity to update you on where we are at present and how we plan to move forward.

Curriculum enrichment week.

The latest announcements from the Government make it clear that schools are very unlikely to be back in a full time attendance pattern before the summer holidays begin. Clearly, this puts curriculum enrichment week in further doubt. You will recall that I mentioned in my last letter to you that we were in negotiation with our insurance company and Plymouth City Council to decide on the best way forward. Those negotiations continue, but we are far from reaching a final resolution as the situation has turned out to be far more complex than we had originally expected. Of course, parents will be given a full refund for any trips that do not run, but please do be patient with us. As soon as we are in a position to start the refund process we will. I am hopeful that we will be able to action the refunds before the summer holidays.

Government announcement on reopening schools for Year 10 and 12.

The Government has said that they expect secondary schools to have some face to face contact with students in Year 10 and 12 before the summer holidays. We have begun working on how this might look at Plymouth High, and are using the guiding principle of student safe, staff safe, school safe in our thinking. I'm sure you will appreciate that planning for some kind of reopening is fraught with difficulties, particularly how we ensure that we meet the various social distancing expectations and small group social bubble requirements. Please be assured that any decision we make will have at its core the interests of our students, staff and their families. I must ask you again to be patient with us. It is my plan to update you further as to our thinking soon after half term.

'Thank a teacher' day.

On Wednesday the 20th of May, it is 'Thank a teacher day'. At Plymouth High we are fortunate to have students and parents who are generous enough to thank us for

what we do throughout the year, every year. We would not want you to feel under extra pressure to engage with the day on Wednesday and know that you are grateful for all that we do. As such, we have decided not to promote 'Thank a Teacher day' on any of our platforms.

I will continue to write to you with updates to keep you in the picture.

Very best wishes,



Simon Underdown.
Headteacher.