



BENTON PARK SCHOOL

'Creating a climate for great learning, success and opportunity'

20th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

It is fair to say that today has been a very strange and emotional day.

It was with a mixture of pride and sadness that we said goodbye to our Year 11 and 13 students. It has been an absolute pleasure to work with them, and you as their parents/carers, over a number of years. Looking on the bright side we will be seeing many of our Year 11 students when they return to our Sixth Form in September.

The students thoroughly enjoyed the chance to have a final assembly with their peers and later in the year we will look to try and organise a year 11 Prom and Hoodies for the leavers. Here is what Mr Ross and Mr Wharton had to say about the Year groups they have had the pleasure of leading:

"We are incredibly proud of all the Year 11 students and the way they have conducted themselves through a difficult term. They have shown real dedication and commitment to their studies and we have been struck by their great resilience throughout this challenging period. This is an anxious time for the students as they wait for clarification about how their qualifications will be awarded and we will continue to work together to support them through this time of uncertainty." Mr Ross

"As a Key Stage 5 Team we are absolutely confident that our Year 13 students will progress onto their chosen next steps. The students have given their all in preparation for completing their courses, and through our recent testing times, they have shown that they are mature, capable and exceptional individuals who have progressed not only academically, but also in terms of their wider emergence into fully engaged members of our community and society. They are a wonderful group of students that the school and sixth form are going to miss, but we wish them all the best and are looking forward to hearing about their future successes, of which there will be many!" Mr Wharton

In terms of their next steps, at the time of writing we have not had clarification from the government regarding the awarding of qualifications in the summer. Undoubtedly, you will read much about this in the press over the weekend and so please be assured that we will write out to you all next week to set out our understanding on the matter and answer any individual concerns you may have.

Not forgetting the students in our other Year groups, as it is clearly an anxious time for them all too. Work will be set via Microsoft Teams and if you click [here you will find](#) further guidance on different aspects of this to enable you to support your child. We will be keeping in touch with the students both academically and pastorally and so please encourage them to speak to us if they have any concerns at all.

As announced by the government, school will remain open to provide a childcare service for certain students including those whose parents are key front line workers in the attempts to contain the Covid-19 virus. Clearly, this is a difficult balancing act

Headteacher: Miss D Martin

Harrogate Road, Rawdon, Leeds, LS19 6LX Tel: (0113) 250 2330

www.bentonpark.org.uk

E-mail: secretary@bentonpark.net

 [@BentonParkSch](https://twitter.com/BentonParkSch)



BENTON PARK SCHOOL

'Creating a climate for great learning, success and opportunity'

as we seek to support the wider efforts of the country whilst keeping our students safe and protecting our staff and their families.

We have collected data today from parents/carers and have begun our operational planning for next week to ensure that we can keep numbers in school to a safe but absolute minimum. As confirmed by the government, we will not be following the National Curriculum and students will be supported to complete the work set in Teams in line with their peers who are working at home.

Students attending school will need to be in full school uniform and bring resources for their timetabled day, as this is the work which will be set for them in Teams.

Free School Meals

Parents/Carers eligible for a free school meal will be contacted early next week to confirm our arrangements. We are still waiting for a government scheme but in the meantime we are making our own local arrangements and will advise relevant families accordingly.

These are very challenging times for everyone and so as we go into the weekend please make sure you relax and enjoy some very precious family time. Stay safe and do not hesitate to contact us if you need any help or support over the coming weeks.

Yours sincerely

Delia Martin
Headteacher

Headteacher: Miss D Martin

Harrogate Road, Rawdon, Leeds, LS19 6LX Tel: (0113) 250 2330

www.bentonpark.org.uk

E-mail: secretary@bentonpark.net

 [@BentonParkSch](https://twitter.com/BentonParkSch)