



# Noadswood

*Fit for learning, fit for life*



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## UPDATE Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020

Thank you so much for your ongoing support and engagement with us during this period of closure, whether that has been as a parent of a child attending our provision or working with us as a school from home – you have been knock out!

### Parents/Carers of Year 8:

Mr Hewitt has issued an ePraise message to you today, pointing you to the Option Blocks and Choices Form for 2020-2023 which are now live in the FROG site. There is some information on the site including all the deadlines for submissions of the form – please note, first come, first served plays no part in this, so don't put yourselves under pressure to get the form back before the deadline of Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April.

Please get in touch with us if you have a question about this process or the information available to you. We understand that this process is more challenging for you and your children than normal so please make sure you do raise your questions to the right people – it might be your child's subject teacher, their House Leader, Mr Hewitt or myself. Just don't leave the question unasked.

### Parents/Carers of Year 11:

This lunchtime, Ofqual set out how GCSEs/all KS4 qualifications (and indeed AS and A levels) will be awarded this summer and published useful guidance for education staff, students, parents and carers:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/877842/Summer\\_2020\\_grades\\_for\\_GCSE\\_AS\\_A\\_level\\_EPQ\\_AEA\\_in\\_maths\\_-\\_guidance\\_for\\_teachers\\_students\\_parents.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877842/Summer_2020_grades_for_GCSE_AS_A_level_EPQ_AEA_in_maths_-_guidance_for_teachers_students_parents.pdf)

They also published a letter for students themselves – please draw your sons' and daughters' attention to this information designed for them, and read it yourselves because it conveys a lot of answers to key questions you will all have:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/877830/Letter\\_to\\_students\\_-\\_Summer\\_2020\\_grading.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877830/Letter_to_students_-_Summer_2020_grading.pdf)

We have this afternoon begun our consideration of this information and will ensure that the work we do follows to the letter the requirements that are spelt out to us.

### **Activities over Easter:**

I have pointed the young people to several activities available to them over the break in my letters (have a look if you didn't look at yesterday's, and there are a few more in today's that will go out soon), and I know many of my colleagues have done likewise. There is a further suggestion below from the Travel Planning Team at Hampshire County Council:

***We have been busy putting together some ideas for families to use at home during this period of lockdown and, in particular, how to put your daily exercise time to good use whilst focusing on your mental health. There are also more ideas for families to access at [www.myjourneyhampshire.com/wellbeing](http://www.myjourneyhampshire.com/wellbeing) and we will be adding to this page over the coming weeks so keep an eye out for more initiatives and ideas.***

***The My Journey website has lots of information about active travel which you are welcome to access, including curriculum resources linked to travel choices and their impact on the environment.***

**Colleagues will not be setting work during the Easter break** – it's ever so important that these two weeks feel different for you all and us all from our term time working from home – but we hope the activities we've been pointing the students towards will keep them busy some of the time.

They're really welcome to carry on sending me what they get up to:  
[headteacher@noadswood.hants.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@noadswood.hants.sch.uk)

You can also just use the ideas in the letters and messages tutors and teachers have been sending them to nudge them towards something nice to do if boredom, or a bit of low mood or just regular teenager whining set in! I will drop the students a line once per week during the holidays, and then more regularly again, of course, when term starts. Make sure they check their ePraise so they don't miss out on messages we have been sending.

When we return from the break, we will write to you again with an update around the work we will be setting, helping us all to manage expectations of each other during this time that is 'school yet not school' as well as we possibly can. We have been so proud of the students for their hard work and so grateful to you for the way you have engaged with the work we have been setting to date – the hugest of well dones and thank yous all round.

I wish you a happy and safe break, and we remain in this together, so if you need us, you know where we are,

Kathryn Marshall and the Noadswood Leadership Team