



Dear Parent / Carer

Wow - We have made it to half term!

I want to start this letter by stating that our TEAM approach to ways of working have proved very successful during this half term. This lockdown has been a very difficult time for people and organisations throughout the United Kingdom and for myself and the TEAM at Moorside High School it has also been a time of extreme challenge. I feel that as a whole school community we can celebrate reaching half term together with a real sense of pride in how we have overcome these challenges.

We have been so proud of how the students have responded during this very challenging time, attendance to lessons has been high and we have been really impressed by the organisation and attitude shown by students.

Following my recent message regarding Lockdown Legend nominations the response was nothing short of amazing. For this, again, I thank you for your appreciation of how hard the staff are working.

### School Re-opening

I have been asked many times when we will be re-opening and to be honest it is still a question I cannot attempt to answer. The government have mentioned 8<sup>th</sup> March but with no further clarity of what this may look like I don't want to speculate any further. I will communicate further once in a position to do so.

### New Core Purpose/Values, Logo and Website

As a leader I believe culture is everything, a great culture allows a school to be really successful. You will know we have recently redesigned our Core Purpose and Core Values. For clarity please see below.

Core Purpose	
<i>To ensure every student leaves us ready for their next successful chapter, with students attending university or starting a fulfilling career.</i>	
We enrich lives and inspire ambitions to ensure students thrive in the world around us.	

Core Values		
C	Consideration	Considerate about ourselves, others and our community
A	Aspiration	Aspire to be the very best in all that we do
R	Resilience	Work hard and never give up, seek help and help others
E	Equality	Value diversity and tackle discrimination

You may have noticed that on social media we have started to use a new school logo. This has been designed to ensure we are very much aligned with Consilium Academies and our wonderful wide family of schools. I want to reassure parents that although overtime we will change the logo on the blazer this will not be an additional cost for families.

Following the Easter Break we are very hopeful to have the roll out of our new website. Again, I appreciate the feedback parents have given on our current website but please know colleagues are working hard to ensure the new one arrives soon.

### Wellbeing Day- Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February was our very first staff and student wellbeing day. The feedback we have received from both parents and students has been extremely positive and it is clear, from all the images and videos that were sent in, that lots of students enjoyed the opportunity for some down time and time away from the screen. We would like to say a huge 'thank you' for all your support as parents and for the encouragement you gave the students on this day. We have a large selection of images on our school website and we hope that you can put aside 5 minutes to view the montage.

We are very keen for this not to be a stand-alone day and for wellbeing and positive mental health to be at the heart of everything we do. After half term we have a number of activities planned along with a very special World Book Day. More details will be circulated when we return after half term.

### Sims Parent App

When we return after the half term break, the SIMS Parent App will be live once more. This means you will receive notifications regarding your child's engagement. We are all confident that students will continue to work hard when we return and engage with the remote learning, we can only hope that we are back together as a community very soon. What we do have to look forward to, however, is our Easter Celebration Assemblies. We are all looking forward to celebrating the students' achievements for this term during the week commencing 29<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

### Year 11

We have not had any updates from the Department for Education following the closure of the consultation about the awarding of GCSE/Vocational grades in the summer. An announcement is imminent but until then Year 11 students need to keep working as hard as they can and continue to do everything possible to prepare thoroughly for assessments set by their teachers and hand in/upload completed pieces of work.

### Half Term Break

School will close on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021 and reopen on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021. I feel It is very important that students get a break and allow themselves to be ready for lessons again on 22<sup>nd</sup> February when we start at our normal time of 08:15 with a session with the Head of Year followed by the normal timetable.

Hopefully with days getting brighter we are over some of the most testing of days. The most important thing is that we keep working together and I am confident we can overcome anything thrown at us.

Keep safe.

Mr Davis  
Headteacher