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Dear Parent/Guardian,

We hope you are all well during this difficult time. This week we were happy to welcome back our year 10 and year 12 students as per government guidance. Though school looked quite different, with all the safety measures in place to protect staff and students, students were engaging in lessons and all students were able to consolidate the learning they had been completing on the Distance Learning platform.

As you will know to support your son/daughter working from home the academy has created an online learning platform that is constantly updated with material for your child to work through. These are supplemented by links to additional learning, explore activities and Seneca online learning that your child can use to enrich and support the work set each week by teachers. These resources can all be accessed from the website, <https://solihull.graceacademy.org.uk/>, by clicking the "Distance Learning" button.

Assessments

At the end of last half-term all students completed assessments in English, mathematics, science, history, geography and French. The outcomes of these demonstrated how successful the Distance Learning platform has been in supporting many students with their learning, and we were impressed with students' progress. This only happens with your ongoing support and guidance at home so, as always, thank you for working with us. Teachers have now been providing clear feedback to students on elements of their learning that they have shown particular strength in, and which areas they need to develop further. This feedback has been sent to students email addresses - if your child has not checked their emails for their feedback please encourage them to do so. Teachers will also be adjusting their future lessons and distance learning resources based upon these lessons to reflect the progress students have made.

How should I best use the Distance Learning resources?

As we welcome students back to school we have been discussing how they have been using the platform to support their learning and how they have scheduled their time during wellbeing sessions. We also thought it would be useful to share some of the strategies that students have said they found useful with all parents. Those students making the best progress **have been completing four Distance Learning lessons each day** from the platform, and spent **one additional hour enriching their learning** by using Explore activities, Hegarty Maths, Seneca Learning, Show My Homework quizzes and additional online learning all found on our Distance Learning platform. We would suggest students' study three hours per day from their core subjects (Maths, English and Science) and one hour a day from their other studies.

Depending on the subjects that each student studies, an example weekly schedule for Distance Learning activities is shown below...

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
English	English	English	Maths	Maths
Maths	Maths	Maths	English	English
Science	Science	Science	Science	Science
Art	Drama	History	ICT	P.E
Explore Activity	SENECA Learning	Hegarty Maths	SMHW Quizzes	PSHE Activites

Distance Learning live lessons for KS3 students

As part of our Distance Learning provision, in the coming weeks we will also be providing live-streamed lessons to support those students who continue to work from home. The lessons will be streamed live to students and will cover English, maths and science. During this time students will be able to listen to and watch their teacher deliver a lesson as well as being able to ask any questions they might have about the topic. We will also host a live Question & Answer session so students can ask about any difficulties they might have had with other work they have been completing this week. These sessions will be scheduled so that no two year groups are receiving a live lesson at the same time as we are aware that some households with more than one child at Grace Academy might not have multiple devices or capability to support multiple live lessons at the same time. We see these Distance Learning live lessons as a way to further compliment the comprehensive distance learning already being provided and also to build on the feedback and communication students have already received as part of the assessment process.

We will be in contact with more information on where and when to access live lessons over the coming weeks.

Yours sincerely



Mr D Gelder
Principal
For and on behalf of Tove Learning Trust