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**Headteacher:** Mr J Parr BA Hons

22<sup>nd</sup> April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you and your families are all safe and well as we adhere to the ongoing government directed lockdown, in support of the fight against the Coronavirus.

I would normally have been writing to welcome students back to school after Easter break, however there is little sense of normality at present. Therefore, I write to thank you for supporting your child/ren as they recommence remote learning. Teachers are again setting work for students in years 7-10 to complete, following the timetable as best possible. As a reminder, teachers are not setting work for period 3 for students in years 7-9, providing a buffer between morning and afternoon lessons. You may be aware of two websites that were introduced this week, aimed at supporting remote learning. [BBC Home learning](#) and [Oak National Academy](#) offer extension/additional work opportunities to students. Please encourage your child/ren to explore the content, much of which is multimedia (some BBC resource available through television) should they or you feel that they could benefit. However, please note that this is not an alternative to the work being set by your child/ren's class teachers, which should be completed as a priority. For Year 11 students, Dr Wood has written to them directly, signposting transition work for all courses being offered by Shrewsbury Colleges Group, academic and vocational. This is relevant to students whether or not they are going to Shrewsbury Colleges Group, encouraging them to be thinking to meet the demands of work at the next phase of education.

With much remote work involving use of the internet, you will be aware of the government's ambition for eligible students to receive equipment, to ensure that they are not disadvantaged through lack of resource. We will be pursuing this as the government portal becomes available to try our best to access the equipment and have it distributed. However, with use of the internet, you will be aware of the need for security and safety. Therefore, to support families in safe online working, we are pleased to provide a link to a [resource pack](#) for online safety from CEOP. This is a trustworthy and informative site, highly recommended for parents/carers and students.

There is much speculation about how and when lockdown will end, with recent news headlines unhelpfully making suggestions that have little substance about re-opening of schools. What we do know is that whilst lockdown remains in effect and schools have been re-purposed, we will do our utmost to provide remote learning to maintain a level of education and ensure the safety of our students. Of course we look forward to a return to school as we know it, but there will undoubtedly be much work to do at a national level to ensure that there is a clear and agreed process to enable this to take place. Ultimately, the priority will always be the safety of our students and staff, which will determine how we respond. I am sure you will understand and support this approach.

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Finally, a reminder that should you or your child need to contact a subject teacher in relation to remote work, you may use their direct work email address. Mr Ward and Mr Longhurst remain the key contacts for any safeguarding concerns (Designated Safeguarding Leads) and Mr Ward, (SENCO), is available for queries relating to Special Educational Needs. The school website also provides contact information, with the homepage providing the most recent information about school status and the letters section the most recent communication.

With very best wishes to you and your family.

Stay safe,

John Parr  
Headteacher