



Blackfen School for Girls

Raising aspirations - releasing potential

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Hi Year 8,

How are you all? Hopefully all well and at least enjoying the sunshine.

I hope you will join me in thanking parents, carers, extended family and everyone being asked questions in this new online educational experience we seem to be part of. A huge learning curve for us all.

I just wanted to write and say thank you to everyone that completed Ms Hands survey on how you are getting on with your online learning: what's going well and where you are having issues. I have spent this afternoon going through it; emailing staff to say how much you appreciate the work they are putting in, the videos, the online support as well as letting subject areas know your concerns and where you have had issues. For those of you that feel you don't have enough work – I have let your teachers know that too!

There has been a few themes from your comments which I would like to make clear:

- Your lessons are an hour. That is about how long you should be working on that subject, unless you usually have homework and you know you should put in that extra work!
- Teachers are available from 8.30 to 4.30 Mon to Fri. They will be checking in at least once a day. Remember you can ask us questions just like in class.
- If you only have 1 lesson a week in a subject then don't expect more work from that subject until the following week. If it's a project then its ok to do this across the weeks given for it.
- Deadlines are being reviewed in all subjects. Remember teachers are assuming that you do the work the day of the lesson and then give the usual time plus a bit extra as we know some of you have issues with access to laptops/tablets etc. So remember if you get carried away on one subject (which is ok), when you catch up on the others then your deadlines may then seem shorter.
- Some subjects are uploading the whole weeks work in one go – that is to give you (and them) time to work through the tasks set. Please read carefully how they are labelled, ie if in date order, the complete in date order!

If you are at all worried about anything, or your parents/carers are, then don't forget your SSO. They miss you too and we have a dedicated email that we are using at this time to help with issues:

studentwelfare@blackfen.bexley.sch.uk

Obviously we are also going to miss parents eve this year. Such a shame as I was looking forward to meeting so many of your parents again to tell them how wonderful you have been. If your parents want to contact any of your teachers for feedback (if they cant see how fabulous you have been working at home), then please ask them to email on the email above and the message will get to your teachers to email them directly.

Finally, please say hello to your teachers through Teams every now and again. We like to hear from you and miss you all. It is very quiet in school for those teachers in and the corridors are an empty place.

So keep safe everyone and keep going. We are here to support and guide, so ask your questions in Teams.

Best wishes

Ms Hayford,
Assistant Headteacher Y7, 8 & 9(Pre Options)

