Deans Community High School UPDATE www.deanscommunityhighschool.com email: wldeans-chs@westlothian.org.uk

I hope that this letter finds you and your family safe and well. I have been incredibly impressed by how our students have tried to adapt to this new way of working and I fully appreciate how difficult this can be for both your child and you. I am very grateful for your patience, understanding and support as we try to work together to continue to support your child in their learning and wellbeing.

As I indicated before the Easter break, we have been working towards a way of moving students forward in their learning whilst still working from home. We have now created a home learning plan that will take effect from Monday 27th April. Teaching will still take place using digital learning where possible, with Teams used as the main platform. Teachers are now in the process of placing students into new Teams and your child will begin to see that they are being placed in these.

I would like to stress that these Teams are not necessarily the classes your child will be in when we return to school as we, like everyone else, have had to find ways to adapt to the current circumstances. Equally, the time given to each subject is not what it will be upon return to school.

For S1 moving into S2, students are still following the broad range of subjects and may simply find that they have new teachers working with them on the next stages of learning in each subject.

For S2 moving into S3 and S3 moving into S4, students have been placed into the subjects they chose in the recent course choice process.

As is always the case when we move to a new timetable, S4 students moving into S5 and S5 students moving into S6, have also been placed into the subjects they chose in the recent course choice process. Just as every other year, we do not know at this stage whether they have passed the National Qualifications they have been working on up to Easter and this will not be made known to teachers or students until the SQA send the results in August. To maximise success at a range of levels, pupils will have the opportunity to change courses and levels in August. Therefore at this stage all course choice invites are provisional and are open to change once we return to school.

I have also uploaded a copy of the Home Learning Timetable with a breakdown of 'periods' for each year group. This shows the time that each teaching block will start and finish. For S1 into S2, the subject areas are identified but for each other year group the tables show the column choice. When students from S3 and above are invited to join a new subject Team, their teacher will let them know which time slots apply to that subject and therefore when they should be logging onto that Team. I realise that this may be a bit confusing as it's not the way students are used to finding out their timetable. Should they have any questions, they should post these on their year group Team forum and a DHT will help them and similarly if they are struggling with the structure of the home learning day.

As this is a such a different way of getting information out, there will likely be a few teething troubles. I would ask that you continue to be patient with us and please get in touch if you have any concerns.

Once again, thank you for your continuing support.

Yours sincerely

Pauline albon

Pauline Allison Head Teacher



As normal our website - **www.deanscommunityhighschool.com** - contains information updates for students and parents/carers. Have a look in our News items and the Information sections in Student Zone & Parent/carer Zone. Our Health & Wellbeing section has been updated with information and resources.

