



4 June 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

It is with great pleasure that I am introducing myself as your son/daughter's Director of Learning commencing 1 June 2020. This is continuing the great work Mrs Duff has done for the past two years with your son/daughter's year group. This exciting role is primarily centred around the GCSE learning, progress and attainment of all students undertaking examination subjects, and to work with yourselves and your son/daughter so that they reach their full academic potential.

Mr Wyatt and Mr Dott will continue to be your child's Head of Year and Assistant Head of Year respectively, and I am looking forward to working alongside them for the next two years.

Firstly, thank you again for your understanding that teachers are trying to do the best for your child and are still putting a lot of time into supporting learning at home. To help this further we are currently in the process of finalising your son/daughter's Options choices commencing in September 2020. We should be able to confirm their choices very soon. This is a very exciting time and once everyone has received final confirmation of choices, your son/daughter will be able to concentrate their efforts on their core subjects - English, Mathematics, Science, Humanity and a Language (if opted for) and their new option subjects for the first time. Please assume that your son/daughter has already got their first choice in either Geography or History.

Work will continue to be set this term and it is incredibly important for them to complete this to the best of their ability as this will lay the foundation for future success when we return to school. If your son/daughter needs help, please get them to message their teacher on SMHW.

To support home learning further we have subscribed to a GCSE online package called GCSEPod which is an award-winning digital content and learning provider. The benefits include:

- Makes learning more manageable;
- Enhances recall of subject knowledge;
- It allows you to get involved with your child's progress;
- Improves your child's confidence and motivation;
- Pre-made exam playlists help to organise revision;
- Takes the stress out of learning.

I have attached an Introduction to GCSEPod and a helpful user guide for your son/daughter to log onto and create an account. Staff will be setting work from GCSEPod. Year 10 students have been using this since April, and we can already see the positive impact it is having with reference to remote learning. Please can your son/daughter register by Friday 12 June 2020. If you are having any issues with logging on, please do not hesitate to contact me at the email address below.

Please do not hesitate to contact either me, Mr Wyatt (dwyatt@plymstockschool.org.uk) or Mr Dott (adott@plymstockschool.org.uk) if you need support or help with any aspect of your child's learning or well-being. We value your input in helping us to make the best out of the current situation.

I will be contacting you again before the end of this term in relation to your son/daughter entering Year 10 in September and to advise what else needs to be done to ensure continued academic success. Thank you again for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Taylor', with a horizontal line underneath.

Mark Taylor
ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER
DIRECTOR OF ATTAINMENT, LEARNING & PROGRESS YEARS 10 & 11

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