

Incorporating: GNSA Secondary, Primary & Nanaksar Primary School

> Guru Nanak Sikh Academy Founder – Sant Baba Amar Singh Ji

Dear Parent/Carers,

1st May 2020

#### Updated Home Learning Provision - From Monday 4th May 2020

We would like to congratulate all pupils for completing the first 2 weeks of home learning this summer term. It has been a successful start to the term despite the circumstances, where the positivity and engagement demonstrated by pupils is absolutely incredible.

It has been particularly pleasing to see how pupils are setting their own routines, in line with what works for themselves and their family. There is no right or wrong routine, we only suggest that it is manageable with a balance of work and free time. We continue to encourage family time and online contact with families and loved ones.

We are extremely pleased with pupils' response towards Google Classroom, however we also recognise the need to continually review our provision to ensure that we are maximising the support we are providing our pupils.

Having reviewed our home learning provision to date and received feedback from the recent pupil survey, we would like to inform you of the updates we are launching-effective from Monday 4th May 2020.

Daily Expectations: We expect all pupils to log in at 9.00am, however we do understand that with the shared use of laptops/devices and varying home routines, timings may vary. To encourage a sense of routine, pupils will be expected to greet their teachers at whatever time they do first log on for the day (this also enables the online register to take place). We will be making phone calls home where pupils are uploading their work very late at night or where pupils are not logging on to complete tasks.

Online Video Lessons: The 4 daily tasks remain, however will be further supported by incorporating some online video demonstrations/lessons to support pupils with certain topics where applicable.

Rewards: A Home learning 'well done' will be introduced on Google Classroom to recognise and reward pupils' hard work and positive attitudes. 'Writer of the Week', 'VIP' and PE awards will be posted in a rewards folder and can be accessed through pupils' online classrooms.

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Video messages: Pupils will be receiving video messages from myself and some of the teachers to share information, keep pupils motivated and to simply say hello! We have also trialled a live video call with our year 6 pupils which was a real success and will be launching this weekly initiative throughout the school.

PE: Please remember that keeping fit and healthy is an important part of the curriculum and you must encourage your children to take part in the PE and exercise posts that Mrs Khilnani posts on a daily basis. The pupils are very fortunate as she makes a lot of effort to record and upload the videos so please make the most of them- even as a family!

GNSA Reading: This brand new initiative will be open to all pupils on Google Classroom and you can enjoy listening and watching different teachers reading to the pupils.

Year 6/7 Transition Hub: This will be open to all Year 6 pupils on Google Classroom, led by the GNSA Head of Year 7. It will be an opportunity for pupils to gain an early insight into secondary school subjects and ask any questions they may have about school transition (whether they move on to GNSA or another secondary school).

Additional weekly challenges will be launched to vary the tasks currently provided, promote time away from technology and engage pupils throughout the week. These challenges are all optional as we do not want to increase pupils' workload.

Once again please can we re-assure you that home learning remains flexible and takes into account varying circumstances within individual households. All activities can be accessed independently and we have set up a new way that pupils can contact teachers if they need any support, which is simple and easy to use.

Please note that pupils should not be posting videos of themselves on Google Classroom (on the main visible class stream). Where teachers have requested this as a set task, this is always optional and should be submitted as classwork (for only the teacher to see).

Please see attached a poster that will be shared with pupils on all of the above and some important reminders. Please note that there will be no tasks set and no teachers online on Friday 8th May 2020, due to the Bank Holiday.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our GNSA team of heroic staff who continue to go above and beyond and adapt to all situations, with the ultimate aim to support our pupils in the best way possible. Home learning is only successful through a

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strong partnership between staff, parents and pupils. Whilst we may not have ever anticipated this - the success so far is truly a testament to all.

We have received no further information to date regarding schools reopening, however will keep you updated as the government shares any new guidance.

On behalf of all the GNSA staff, thank you for all your support. We send our good wishes to you and your families. Please stay safe!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs P. Dhaliwal

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