Belong . . . Believe . . . Achieve . . .



Waterloo Oakdale BLACKWOOD NP12 ONU 01495 233600 ihsca@caerphilly.gov.uk www.islwynhigh.org

Chair of Governors: Mr G Bryce

Headteacher: Mr J Hicks

15th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope that things are not too stressful for you at the moment and we understand how challenging learning from home can be. At this stage, we have no further indication of when school may be able to reopen other than what may result from the review from Welsh Government due to take place at the end of this month.

Although we must stress that 'live' sessions are not necessarily the best form of delivery in all sessions and we would certainly not recommend a model where all five lessons in a day are delivered 'live', Staff have been working extremely hard to ensure that a greater proportion of sessions are of this nature and we have progressed from Tuesday when approximately 18% of sessions in the school day were 'live' to a position today where the figure stands at just under 30%. We hope to continue this trend next week and would like to be in a position where, on average, two in every five sessions in a day had some 'live' element to it.

What we want to ensure from this approach is that there is far better engagement with remote learning from pupils in all year groups. Notifications of 'live' sessions will be given via the Class charts app and it has been reassuring this week to hear of so many parents contacting the school with queries re. This facility as it reassures me that many of you are indeed seeing an improvement in the engagement of your children in recent days. All the information that you require in this regard is available on the home page of the school website as are the contact details of the relevant staff should you need to contact them about any issue (technical, subject based or pastoral).

I hope to be in touch next week with further information with regard to plans to try and support you in ensuring that your sons and daughters engage fully with our remote learning offer but, in the meantime, please stay safe, try to enjoy your weekend and do not hesitate to contact us if we can support you any further.

Regards,

Mr. J.Hicks Headteacher