



DREAM BIG, WORK HARD, STAY HUMBLE

# MRS GIOVANELLI'S BLOG

EDITION 7



W/C 9TH NOVEMBER 2020



# Dealing With Challenge

“Life’s challenges are not supposed to paralyze you, they’re supposed to help you discover who you are.”

– Bernice Johnson Reagon

As we end our first fortnight back after the half-term break, I think it's fair to say that we are now facing and dealing with an increased set of challenges due to the second national lockdown and the increasing number of positive Covid-19 cases. I made a decision when I was appointed as the Headteacher of Kingsthorpe College that I would never take the easy option, and I would never let perceived difficulties stand in the way of what I believed was the right thing to do for our young people and our community. It was with this mindset that we made the decision at the start of this week to ask Year 8 and 9 to learn from home, and it is with this same mindset that we have been dealing with the isolated cases of students testing positive for Covid-19.

I have always tried to lead the school in an open and transparent way - and most of all, with humility. I know there is much we can be proud of as a school, but I also know there is always more we can do. We took the lessons we learned from the first lockdown in terms of our home learning provision and we have been working hard behind the scenes to develop our infrastructure and our capabilities to improve this offer. Whilst we still have more we can understand and develop, I am incredibly proud that over the last 3 days we have delivered over 400 live lessons to our students. Even more impressive I believe, is the level of engagement that we have seen from our students. As I write this blog, the current indication is that 94% of Year 8 and Year 9 students were learning from home this week, taking part in live lessons, collaborating with each other and interacting with their teachers. This percentage is even higher at Post 16. Never did I think I would find myself at 2:50pm on a Friday afternoon broadcasting live to two year groups at home as we undertook a live reward draw for our KC virtual school!

Delivering our home learning provision has not been without its challenges, and I want to thank students and parents for bearing with us when necessary - we have put further processes in place as a result of our learning this week. A huge thank you for the positive feedback and comments we have had from students and parents - it has been greatly appreciated.

We believe we set an ambitious programme for how we would approach the current challenges (which we know are not unique to us) and through this, we have been reminded about what we believe in and what's important to us. #TeamKC will never stop dreaming big, working hard, and staying humble.

Please have a good weekend and take care.

Mrs Giovanelli