Dear Parent/Guardian

I trust this message finds you and your family as well as possible. As I have said before, we are certainly living in challenging times and I take this opportunity to thank you and your son/daughter for all of their efforts in helping to keep the Banbridge Academy community safe. I have been extremely impressed with how the young people in our care have followed the protocols and safety measures we have had to implement over these past few months. Please be assured we will continue to work with you and everyone in the community to ensure your son/daughter continues to receive the highest quality of education possible throughout this academic year.

You will be aware from the reports in the media that the Northern Ireland Executive has taken a number of difficult decisions in relation to schools, alongside other measures for businesses and the community as a whole. As regards school, your son/daughter should attend school as normal, unless they are ill or have been advised to self-isolate up to and including Friday 16 October. The school will be closed for a two week Halloween break for pupils from Monday 19 to Friday 30 October inclusive. Please note there will be no remote learning during this time, however as is normal practice, colleagues will give students (predominately GCSE and A Level classes) revision and potentially other work to complete.

At this moment, the Executive has decided schools will reopen on Monday 2 November for normal teaching.

I take this opportunity to wish you and your family a safe and happy Halloween break.

Kind regards

R S McLoughlin Principal Banbridge Academy