

13th June 2020

To Whom It May Concern
The White Horse Federation

I just wanted to put in writing how exemplary The Peak Academy has been throughout shutdown.

I have a year 9, 14 year old foster daughter that has attended since June 2019. Tertia has struggled with anxiety when it comes to school and in The Peak she has found the nurturing and attachment she needs from Hazel Loveridge and Kate Yarnton in particular to give her that sense of safety she desperately needs.

When it was announced schools would close, I thought Tertia was going to struggle immensely as she really loves school. My real worry was her losing the resilience, attachment and academic improvement she has made at The Peak by the time she returned. However, she has buckled down and worked immensely hard every day – even holidays at her request and continues to positively look forward to her return.

This is due to The Peak and the fantastic way they continue to look after Tertia. This includes:

- Varied, interesting work, clearly presented on a weekly basis. Recently it has been going on Sunday nights which enables me to print out and plan Tertia's week so Monday's can start calmly. Some of the work has given us the opportunity as a family to do activities together such as cooking with her sisters, making a miniature garden and artwork.
- Positive feedback from subject tutors – even replies to emails at 10pm when I've only just found the time to scan and send through.
- Daily phone calls from Hazel fitting in around Tertia's time including evenings if Tertia needed. Hazel has been amazing keeping Tertia positive and sharing pictures, letting her know how proud of her she is – really keeping that attachment going.
- Weekly phone calls from Kate (her TA) and Mr Willsmere.
- Updated positive news on Twitter including loads of mental health and wellbeing links.
- Visits from various staff members.
- Skype calls from Mrs Lewis including Topsy and Turvy.

I am home schooling Tertia's 2 sisters as well, so dealing with 3 schools and The Peak outshines the other two by a long shot!

So a big thank you for so much thought and compassion that has gone into the last 3 months and I'm sure for in the future too.

One of Tertia's Food Tech tasks was to make a colourful cake as a Thank You to the NHS or someone she was grateful to. Tertia's cake says it all....

