Having made regular contact with pupils since the lockdown, I feel there are mixed reviews regarding the impact the pandemic has had on young people.

Many feel happier that they do not have to go to school. They feel better that the pressure of school is not currently an issue and therefore have lower anxiety and other mental health levels. However, this also brings the problem of encouraging young people to complete schoolwork as this is associated with school pressure.

Others are missing the school environment including learning and interacting with friends. Many are struggling with not being allowed to go out to socialise with friends or play football etc with friends.

I believe this extended period away from school may have a detrimental impact on the pupils who already have difficulty attending school for mental health reasons.