

3rd June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are currently finalising the way in which we extend our provision to year 10 students. The government decision to invite more children back to school is based on a couple of key areas being met locally. These are

- No more than a quarter of year 10 on site during any single day (reduce community transmission)
- School should expect social distancing to be in place

We hope to meet the government expectation of opening in some form, for some students on 15th June. When we do, it will be in a measured way with specific time slots during that week.

As we know from surveys, most parental concerns are around social distancing. We also know that views on the lockdown vary dramatically. However, in order to meet the government guidance and play our part in protecting our local community, we are working to the government's 5 key areas of infection control

- **Minimising contact with individuals who are ill** (parents not sending children who are ill, isolation zones in school)
- **Improved Hygiene** (Hand washing available, designated toilets, hand sanitiser available, rota for access to facilities)
- **Good respiratory hygiene** (signs, bin collection between lesson, tissues available, all rooms to have open windows, teacher option of using outside)
- **Cleaning frequently touched surfaces** (cleaners on site, room rotation, doors open)
- **Minimising contact** (Quarter of a year group on site, desks marked nos. 1-8, teacher space marked out, no work books to be shared, use of student "bubbles" where possible, removed social spaces)

Whilst many are observing the rules strictly outside of school, it is clear that a significant minority are choosing not to. **The government guidance is clear that social distancing must be in place. We would ask for your support in reinforcing this message.**

How will the provision look?

Online, remote learning remains the main way of students working in the near future. This must be becoming harder as the weather stays so fair, so we will increase our pastoral calls and use our time with students to motivate, address misconceptions and keep them on track. We are well aware that whatever approach we take will not meet the expectations of everyone. However, as we are still in the middle of many different challenges, it is crucial to remind parents that attendance for students is not compulsory and if family circumstances do not allow, students will not miss out on new topics by not being in school.

We are exploring a range of models to make best use of your child's time. When we invite students into school, you will make the decisions as a parent whether you are happy with what we are providing. You will have the choice of accepting the invite or not. However, it is also clear from the guidance that many of the rules on returning are aimed to reduce transmission outside of the school. This does put a lot of expectations on to parents and the certainty you have in your child's understanding of social distancing. There will also be a need for regular communication with school, with arrangements likely to change at very short notice due to the track and trace processes that will be in place. There will be challenges in getting to and from school safely, maintaining the social distancing outside the building and keeping surfaces clean.

In short, students will receive two sessions of all their subjects between now and the end of the summer term. They will also receive two tutorial sessions. All attendance on the site will be timetabled and by invite only as no other students (apart from our Childcare provision) should be on site.

All families will receive a link to an online presentation about reopening, a weekly timetable detailing where students need to be and a personalised timetable. These will be distributed during the week beginning 8th June.

Week beginning 15th June: Each student will be invited in to a tutorial to look at their progress so far, identify concerns and explain how the remainder of the term will work. There will also be information given about colleges, GCSEs and careers.

Week beginning 22nd June: All students will be allocated to a small “bubble” and will be allocated a day to attend school. They will receive three lessons, in English, Maths and Science.

Week beginning 29th June: All students will be invited in on one day, which will give them access to their four options.

After this, a decision will be made about extending the provision further and how future weeks will work.

Students will be in school for one allocated period of time each week, covering up to four subjects in the space of 3-4 hours. Sessions will be 9am to 12pm (latest)

Getting the balance right is difficult for everyone, but we are determined to meet the government expectation of providing some face to face support for students before the end of the summer term, but we have to do so in a way that keeps staff and students safe. Therefore, before any decision is made, I will write again with details about how the school will operate and detail the measures we will be taking. Hopefully this will give you all the information you need to make an informed choice. I will share the details by Tuesday 9th June at the latest.

What information needs to be gathered/shared?

We are currently putting together rooming's and staffing for each day. We will also be grouping the students based on needs. We are making the assumption that all available students will be invited, but recognise that some are shielding and therefore unable to attend.

- We will share a presentation about how the school will work during the next few weeks. I will send the link to this for you to watch and then discuss with your child. You will then make the decision about whether you are happy to send your child into school based on the information we provide.
- We will share the details of the changes to policies (behaviour etc.) and ask you to confirm that you have read it with your child.
- We will then ask for information about individual student needs so that personalised care plans/risk assessments can be put in place.
- Each student will then need to read/watch a briefing about how the building will work when they return (including entrances/exits etc.).
- All students will be sent their weekly timetable with rooms, teachers, entrances and times and will need to bring this each time they attend.
- We will also need to share further information about letting us know when a student is not able to attend.

As attendance at this provision is optional, we recognise that numbers will vary. We will be putting on high quality tutorials that supplement the online provision. However, where students are unable to attend they will not be at a disadvantage, and details of sessions will be posted at the end of the week.

I will share further details shortly, which I hope will help you make a decision about accessing our provision.

The plans that the school are hoping to put in place are subject to approval by the Full Governing Body.

I hope you are all keeping safe and well.

Yours sincerely,



Ray Baker
Headteacher