

12th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

This is just a brief note to point you towards the latest government guidance about the possible reopening of schools. I use the word "possible" as you will see that all of this advice is based around the situation in England at the end of May, not today.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june>

There is a lot of information here, as well as lots of areas for schools to think about. Having received brilliant ideas and feedback from parents, we can see that there are not only a range of views but also some common fears. Whilst the uncertainty means that very little is definite, I know parents and students will be anxious but I feel confident enough to say the following:

- If school is required to reopen, the government are looking at bringing the current year 10 back in some form
- Remote, online learning will be the main way of learning at LSA for the remainder of this academic year for ALL students (including year 10)
- We will operate in very small groups (i.e. max 10) and will be a part-time provision
- We are working on plans of short, sharp periods in school for students (i.e. tutorials)
- We will create social distancing risk-assessment to cover breaks, student movement, toilets and every other step in school
- A typical high school timetable will not be followed as there will need to be greatly reduced movement around site and students will experience a greatly reduced number of interactions with other students and staff per day
- We will also make decisions around uniform, whether we can provide lunch and how student enter/exit the site
- We will work with families to understand each of our situations and will do everything we can to keep people safe
- We will only provide something that is worthwhile and students who are unable to attend (health or family reasons) will be mentored to ensure they are progressing

However, there will be many other things to consider, including the number of staff we have available each day, so as you can all imagine, there will be a lot more work behind the scenes and plenty of future letters, emails and calls. In the meantime, school remains closed, open only to those students attending the Key Worker Childcare provision.

If the lockdown restrictions continue in the long term, we will then create a plan that brings in certain students on certain days in other year groups, but again this will not be anything like our school operates. Again, our remote learning will keep developing and will be central to keeping all students engaged, motivated and able to succeed.

Apologies for another letter but knowing how the announcements today have made me feel as a parent of a year 6, I wanted to assure you that we will not be taking chances and will be waiting for further updates, prior to 1st June. As our approach develops, we will let you know.

Stay safe

Yours sincerely,



Ray Baker
Headteacher