



Thursday, 25th February 2021

Dear Parents,

Parent Update Letter

As you know, this week we have received the details regarding the next phase of the Government's response to the coronavirus pandemic. The road map that has been outlined is a step-by-step plan that begins the wider opening of schools.

Throughout the pandemic we have adopted a measured and systematic approach that prioritises the health and safety of all of our students as well as that of staff and their families. This will remain the case as we prepare for students returning to school across the week beginning Monday 8th March.

As you would expect, our own detailed planning has begun in earnest and once we have digested the full implications of the Government's COVID-19 response document we will be writing to you again early next week with full details of our return to school programme.

It is important to note that most secondary schools will be planning for a phased return over the week to allow students to be LFD tested on their return. As such, students will not all be returning together on the Monday 8th March. It is our intention to get everyone back as soon as possible, starting with the year groups that are in their exam years.

Despite the successful vaccination programme being rolled out, it remains crucial that we continue to mitigate against the risk of transmission of the virus within our schools. For this reason our planning will focus on:

- Re-visiting and refreshing all our risk assessments and systems of controls
- Providing asymptomatic testing for all students on their return
- Alternative examination arrangements
- Adapting the curriculum offer and managing the transition from remote learning
- Providing robust support for our most vulnerable and disengaged students

In the meantime, it is very important that all our students continue to engage with their remote learning. This will aid a smoother transition back into school and will support their re-adjustment to the routines that have been much missed by us all.

We are delighted that we might now be seeing the beginning of the end of what has been the most traumatic year for us all. Seeing your children back in school is something that we now look forward to planning for and giving you full details of early next week.

Yours sincerely,

M Cunniffe

Head of School

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