

10 June 2020

Dear Parents

I hope that you and your family are well. Further to my letter before half term, I would like to update you on our plans for this half term and the measures that we are putting in place for the wider opening of the school.

Wider opening of the school

I met with Wirral secondary headteachers this week along with the Director and Public Health Wirral and we were reassured to hear from them that there are no public health reasons why we should not move forward with our plans for the wider opening of schools. Public Health Wirral are reassured by the detailed risk assessments that all schools have in place and are confident that these ensure that we are offering safe environments for students and staff.

If you would like to view the school's full risk assessment, please visit the website:

<https://www.birkenheadparkschool.com/parents/coronavirus>.

All secondary schools and the Sixth Form College have been working together through this difficult time and will continue to do so as we move forward. There is a recognition that what we do over the coming weeks will vary as we adapt our plans to open to more students dependent on our individual circumstances.

Here at BPS we will welcome back a number of Year 10 students from next week. As anticipated from the latest government guidance, students in Years 7,8 and 9 will not return to school before September at the earliest. We will of course keep you updated as we receive further government guidance regarding the wider opening of schools.

Remote Learning

For students in all year groups, our remote learning programme continues. I am delighted to share with you some new developments that will be launched next week that will expand this offer further. From Monday 15th June we are pleased to be able to offer online lessons for students in all year groups. We hope to support you and your children by offering a timetable of lessons that all students from Year 7-10 can access.

Students will be able to watch an instructional teaching video that will cover key knowledge, ask students to recall previous learning, address any misconceptions and set students immediate tasks to complete to demonstrate what they have learnt.

Students should then complete the tasks set and send their work back to the teacher via email (photo, scanned work etc) so that they can receive feedback.

In addition to this, all students will be able to log in to a weekly 'drop in' session to talk to their teachers about any questions they have. Drop in sessions will be used to support students academically and also support their well-being during this period of school closure.

We hope this provides you and our students with a structured approach to remote learning as we move forward.

Please visit the school website from Monday 15th June and you will find a timetable of lessons across all year groups, links to the video lessons and details of how to book a place for your son/daughter in one of the feedback or drop-in sessions: <https://www.birkenheadparkschool.com/home-learning>.

Lessons will be updated weekly so please encourage your son/daughter to check the website regularly for new video lesson links. Learning plans with the content for this half term for all subjects can also be accessed from the same area of the website.

Free School Meals

As students will not return to school for full days before September at the earliest, the Edenred national voucher scheme for those students eligible for Free School Meals will continue. If you have any problems accessing this, please contact freeschoolmealsparentscarers@edenred.com

Pastoral support and contacting school

Arrangements are in place to support our most vulnerable children throughout this period of school closure. Key pastoral staff are supporting families by phone and are available should you have any queries or concerns. Contact details are on our website. Should you have any general questions or need to contact school, please telephone 0151 652 1574 during core school hours in term time and leave a voicemail if your call is not answered. You can also contact the school on offices@birkenheadparkschool.com.

We remain committed to doing all we can to support you and your families during this time.

I will write again with further updates before the end of term as we plan ahead for September and beyond. Thank you for the support that so many of you have shown during these challenging times.

With warmest wishes to you and your families. Stay safe and well.

Yours faithfully



Helen Johnson
Headteacher