



20th May 2020

Dear Year 10 parents and carers,

Following my letter to you on the 12th May, I am writing to update you on our planning for students in Year 10 to start coming into school before the summer holidays, we are hoping to organise this to begin from 8th June.

The safety, health and wellbeing of everyone in the school is, of course our highest priority. We are planning how to put into place the measures needed so that our school can be run safely, hygienically and with appropriate procedures in place when we re-open.

The Government has stressed that all re-opening plans will depend on infection rates decreasing and it won't make its final decision on whether schools can definitely re-open until May 28th. This uncertainty makes planning difficult, but we will continue to develop our plans to welcome some children back into school – we really miss seeing them!

The Government guidance says that no more than 11-15 (*max*) children can be in a secondary classroom when schools re-open. It has also said that students will need to sit two metres apart. We will therefore need to very carefully manage how to limit the number of pupils and staff who mix with each other whilst in school. In addition, it will be important that we avoid large numbers of students gathering when coming to or leaving school. This may mean we will have to stagger the times so that different groups arrive and leave at different times. We are expecting further guidance from the Department for Education (*DfE*) later this week.

As you know we have been delivering year 10 tutorials in all subjects. These have been exceedingly successful, and the tutorials are conducted over Teams as face-to-face sessions. Similarly, we have been providing online learning alongside the tutorials and we have had over 70% of the year group engaging with the learning.

With over 210 students in year 10, we will not and cannot have the whole year group on campus at one time. Therefore, we will be issuing to parents/carers, students and staff a survey in order that we hear the anxieties/questions and then do our very best to address them. The survey will be sent to you very soon and we would appreciate a swift response. We will then develop a FAQ for parent/carers, students and staff in order that we answer your questions. Your feedback will inform our actions, plans and communications.

I will write to you again on 1st June 2020, when I can hopefully share some specific arrangements and plans for Year 10. Please do bear with us, I know that many of you will already have lots of questions, but I would ask for your patience and understanding as we continue to organise the return to school. One of our thoughts is to possibly 'pilot' a return programme with a small group of year 10 students during the week beginning 8th June, after which we expect to have a rota for the week



beginning 15th June. We will only invite the year group back into school when we are totally satisfied that our plans, systems and safety measures are absolutely rehearsed and effective.

In the meantime, and for all our students in other year groups, please do continue to encourage your child with their home learning, online and the face to face tutorials – we have seen such brilliant work. Please note that we are starting to conduct random home visits to students who have failed with home learning.

We hope that you and your families are well and safe at this time and I will be in touch again soon.

Best regards,

Yvonne Powell
Executive Principal