

June 2020: School Reopening for Year 10 Students

Dear Parents and Carers

As a community of parents, staff and students – we have all done our utmost to ensure our children are safe, well and continue to thrive within their learning, and so I would like to start by thanking you all for your continued support during these challenging times.

As you will be aware, I recently wrote to you regarding the Government's announcement that all secondary schools are required to plan for some face-to-face teaching with Year 10 students from June 2020. Understandably, you may be feeling anxious about the current situation and the possibility of your child returning to school. However, I would like to take this opportunity to emphasise that the safety and well-being of our students and the wider community are our priority, and any reopening plans have our students' well-being at the centre.

With this in mind, we will be asking Y10 students to return to school, in some capacity, from Monday, 22nd June. It is important to note that, remote learning will continue to be the predominant mode of education, and so any return to school for Y10 will **not be on a full-time basis**. Rather, it is an opportunity for staff and students to review current remote learning and for students to receive supplementary face-to-face support with work set by their subject teachers via online learning.

Therefore, in accordance with current government guidance, we are planning for one full day of face to face education per week for each student. This will allow us to fulfil all the requirements for the safe operation of the school during this period, with Google classroom continuing as the predominate mode of education on the other days.

I would also like to reassure you that any planned assessments and mock exams will not be taking place this term or during the Autumn term.

At this stage, in order to effectively put the measures in place I have outlined below, I would like to know if you intend on sending your child to school when we reopen. Please can you do this by filling in the form on the school website by Thursday 11th June.

Below you will find some of the steps we are taking to ensure we safeguard everyone on site, based on national and local advice, and with the primary concern of keeping everyone safe. You can access a full risk assessment via the school website.

Timetabling and Distancing Measures:

- Students will be invited to attend school on a set day with reduced school hours to support community distancing.
- Leaders have taken steps to zone the school to minimise contact between groups of students and staff, students will not be allowed to move groups at any point.
- All class sizes, as per the government's guidance, **will be limited to a maximum of 10 students per class.**



- The start and the end times of the school day as well as break and lunch times, will be staggered.
- Each student group will have an allocated toilet block, entrance/exit route, and these will be clearly identified and supported by staff on site.
- Each area used will have dedicated cleaners and regular, thorough cleaning times after use.
- Students **are not expected to wear school uniform**; however, appropriate clothing is required.
- **No visitors will be allowed in the school building**, other than by appointment.

Reducing the use of shared resources:

- All students will have allocated classrooms and desks to work at, and teachers will teach from the front of the classroom.
- Students will be expected to bring their own equipment: pen, pencil, ruler and calculator.
- Students will continue to submit their work via Google Classroom receiving feedback from their teachers electronically.

Transport to and from school:

- **Students should walk or cycle to school, where possible.**
- Parents should refrain from accompanying their child to school, where possible.
- Parents must not gather at the entrance gates or doors or enter the building.

Catering:

- **We would encourage all students to bring their own packed lunch to school**, as this is the most effective way of mitigating the risk of any spread of infection.
- Where this is not possible, students will be able to purchase food from a limited menu from the school canteen.

Expectations regarding hygiene:

- We will ensure that sufficient handwashing facilities are available and hand sanitiser will be available in all teaching zones.
- After each block of teaching, break and lunch times, surfaces will be cleaned with designated reactive cleaners.
- All students will be expected to frequently wash their hands throughout the day.

Of course, this is an ever-evolving situation, and so I will continue to communicate with you via text message, and keep you updated through our social media pages and the school website. Our commitment remains, that the well-being of our students and the school community is at the heart of all our decision making, and so we will endeavour to give you timely notice of any changes.

As always, thank you for your continued support.

Mr Rhodes