



14th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope this letter finds you and your families well.

Potential lifting of lockdown

Following various announcements by the Government over the past few days, regarding provisional steps to lift the lockdown imposed due to Coronavirus, I wanted to share our initial thoughts. Above all, we are committed to two key principles:

1. We will be prioritising the wellbeing and safety of our staff and students.
2. We will be providing, as best we can, engaging work for all students.

Years 7, 8 and 9

It now seems to be quite clear that KS3 students will not be in school before September. Although I agree with this, we do really miss your children, school is too quiet without them. I can't wait to hear the excitement in the corridors and feel the tangible air of concentration and anticipation in our classrooms.

Year 10 and 12 face to face support

As reiterated by the Government, any proposed changes are dependent on continued monitoring and scientific evidence to confirm that the safe thresholds are being met. Students in years 10 and 12 will not be attending school until the Government confirm that it is safe to do so, and until we feel school is fully equipped to keep students and staff as safe as possible.

Should year 10 and 12 students attend school at some point after half term for face to face support, this will be on a very reduced timetable. Their return will be staggered to support social distancing alongside stringent hygiene procedures, in order to minimise the risk to students and staff. I will update you over the next two weeks regarding plans should we be welcoming more students into school.

In the meantime, we continue to support and welcome the children of key workers and vulnerable children where this has been prearranged with school.

Online work for students

Thank you for your ongoing support in helping your child/children to access the work set by teaching staff and in supporting their engagement in this work. The majority of students are doing really well with the work they have been set, we are really impressed with their efforts; please congratulate them for us. We are also aware that a few students are expressing concerns including, completing all work, getting behind or even being reprimanded for incomplete work. Please reassure your child that all we ask is for them to engage in the work and try their best. We will support all students to catch up,



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over time and on our return to school, I am confident that together we will make this happen. Students will not be reprimanded for incompleteness of work. If you have concerns please do contact your child's form tutor by email or have a talk to them when they contact you over the next few weeks. We have now reviewed the work that students are receiving alongside feedback from the student questionnaire, phone calls and emails home. We will continue to review to ensure our offer is appropriate.

I am sure you may have many questions that we are not yet in a position to answer however, we will keep you updated with changes as soon as we have more information to share. Please do access the community newsletter which has lots of ideas and support for learning and wellbeing. I have very much enjoyed seeing the student's contributions to this and the gallery of time well spent.

Thank you again for your ongoing support.

Very best wishes

Nicola Raggett
Headteacher