



School re-opening and year 10

Dear Parents and carers,

I hope this letter finds you and your families well. I wanted to take this opportunity to write to you, following the statement from the Prime Minister issued on Sunday 10th May. In his statement, the Prime Minister communicated the government's expectation: "'From 1 June 2020, we expect that secondary schools will be able to offer some face to face contact with year 10 pupils'". Even though government advice is to 're-open June 1st' we are committed to ensuring safety of all our staff and students and as such do not plan to be in a position to open fully on the 1st June.

Before explaining how we intend to welcome more students back to school, I would like to thank each and every one of you for the support you have shown the school during this time of adversity.

As you are aware from previous communication, planning has begun in relation to preparing for a return to school for additional students. This is currently in the early stages of planning and is focused around ensuring safety through overcoming problems such as room capacity and the entry and exit to the building, along with undertaking full risk assessments.

However, as this planning is continuing, I feel we are now at a stage where we can begin to share with you an outline. Please also remember this roadmap is subject to change, depending on Government advice regarding the easing of lockdown.

No date or plans have been finalised as of yet, when school returns after the May half term on the 1st of June there will be no changes. We will continue with the timetable we are currently running and the students of keyworkers currently attending.

This week I sent a survey to year 10 parents who have indicated if they intend to send their children back to school, can I take this opportunity to thank all for the swift return of this as it aids the schools planning at this difficult time for everyone.

Our proposed timeline:

Week beginning 1st June: School re-opens with our current lockdown timetable and planning will continue.

Week beginning 8th June: Meetings undertaken with year 10's and those who are most vulnerable in preparation to school reopening.

Week beginning 15th June: Reopen to Year 10 with some face to face contact.

I appreciate that the thought of your child returning to the Academy may cause some apprehension, please let me assure you that the Academy will follow government guidance and take every reasonable measure to protect the safety of both staff and pupils. A full risk-assessment will be completed and there will be a variety of robust measures in place to protect all. This includes;

- Enhanced cleaning regimes;
- Limited numbers of pupils and adults on site each day;
- Pupils will be taught in 'bubbles'; pupils in one class (bubble) will not mix with pupils in another class;
- Teaching spaces have been carefully selected so that they are easy to clean regularly and to enable social distancing. All teaching spaces will be within easy access to hand washing facilities;
- Pupils will remain in one teaching space only; teachers will come to the children, thus limiting movement and social contact;
- Pupils will attend on a rotation basis and will be in school for only a few hours at a time, reducing contact with others;
- Social distancing will be adhered to at all times.

Pupils will be expected to wear their school uniform when they attend school. They are welcome to leave their blazers at home; this is because it is recommended that clothing is washed on the return home from school.

Please be assured that the safety of our students and staff remains our utmost priority in all decision making.

Thank you for your continued support at this time and I will continue to update you as and when we receive further guidance from the government.

S Mallett

Head of Academy