June 5th 2020

Dear Parents & Carers of Students in Year 12,

I hope this letter finds you safe and well. When I wrote to you before Half Term, we were still waiting for Government Guidance on extending our on-site offer to support students in Year 12 at this crucial time in their education. We finally received that guidance during Half Term, with confirmation that secondary schools are now expected to offer face to face support for Yr10 and Yr12 students from June 15th, subject to the scientific advice that it is safe to do so at that time.

The Guidance makes clear the ambition to ensure all students in Year 12 receive some face-to-face support on site, while continuing with their learning from home for the majority of their time. We are only allowed to accommodate 25% of the cohort at any time and are expected to design an offer that involves strict social distancing arrangements until further notice. As a result, I set out below the details of how we expect to operate for the remainder of this academic year and I also attach a link to a very important survey that we need you to complete so we can properly plan our next steps which can be found here: https://bit.ly/3dBXIlk

On-Site Provision for Year 12 from June 15th

In line with Government Guidance, we are planning to extend a face to face offer to Year 12 from June 15th. This offer is designed to help students succeed with their studies from home.

Our top priority is to design an offer that keeps everyone in our community safe, paying close attention to the risks for all of our children, families and staff during the COVID-19 Pandemic. You can find Government Guidance for parents and carers here: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers.

We intend to start carefully with our face-to-face offer because we need to help students return to a very different school environment.

Step 1: Individual Well-Being and Induction Session, week starting June 15th
This will be a 15-minute 1-to-1 session in school to help us understand how your child is doing in themselves, to identify and help with any barriers they may have faced studying from home and to celebrate their successes. The session will also give your child all the information they need about the social distancing measures that will be in place from the following week when Study Support will begin.

Step 2: Weekly 2-Hour Study Support Session, week starting June 22nd
All students will be placed in a fixed group for a weekly 2-hour study support session. The aim is to minimise social mixing in line with Government guidance, keeping your child and therefore your family as safe as possible from risk of transmission during their time at school. Every student will be given a set day in the week and a set time they are expected to attend.

We are limiting the sessions to 2 hours in the first instance while we establish strict social distancing. We know this is going to be a big change for everyone to get used to. By keeping the session to two hours, students will not need to take a break or access the school canteen, meaning that we are keeping to an absolute minimum the opportunities for virus transmission. We will be staggering the start times for students and supporting them with advice for safe travel to and from school.

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It is clear that the Government expects all students back in school other than those who are medically vulnerable or living with someone who is shielding. We do know parents and carers may have a number of worries and concerns, however we are confident that the plans we have in place mean that we are keeping to a minimum the risks of COVID-19 transmission for students attending school.

The survey attached asks you to indicate whether at this stage you expect to send your child into school so that we can plan properly. I appreciate that you may change your view as new information is made available both from school and from Government advisors.

**On-Line Survey – Deadline Monday June 8th**


If you are unable to complete the survey on-line, please contact school’s Main Reception for assistance and someone will take you through the survey over the phone.

As ever, it is vital we have up-to-date contact details for you, If your phone number or email address have changed, please do contact us as a matter of priority so we can keep in touch with you.

Thank you for your continued support during these most unusual times!

Yours sincerely,

Emma Leaman
Headteacher