

# Headteacher's Newsletter

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Dear Parents and Carers of Year 10 and 12 students,

As part of our planning for Years 10 and 12 to have some 'face to face' contact from June 15th onwards, we need to know how many of you are intending for your son/daughter to return part time. The Government have not yet definitely defined what 'face to face' means but have suggested that it could be 'additional pastoral support, academic support or a combination of these'.

Before you decide what you intend to do, you will need to know what the Government has asked schools to do to minimise risk:

- minimising contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that students or staff who have coronavirus symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school
- cleaning hands more often than usual - students and staff should be encouraged to regularly wash their hands thoroughly for 20 seconds with running water and soap and dry them thoroughly, or use alcohol hand rub or sanitiser ensuring that all parts of the hands are covered
- ensuring good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach
- cleaning frequently touched surfaces often, using standard products such as detergents and bleach
- minimising contact and mixing, as far as possible, by keeping students in small groups for face-to-face support and keeping those groups as consistent as possible whilst in school (e.g. for arrival, lunchtime, breaks and departure)
- altering the school environment (e.g. changing classroom layouts so desks are further apart or dividing groups into different classrooms)
- restricting movement around school including breaks and lunchtimes

We will put all these things in place and be practicing social distancing, including keeping students 2 metres apart where possible.

We will only be able to have 50 year 10 and 40 year 12 students on site on any one day as well as the children of key workers and vulnerable students who we have been open for all along. Please do not assume that you can send your child back to school as normal on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2020. As your intentions become clear, we will plan days accordingly and invite students into school.

The school canteen will not be able to provide food before school and at break times. The only food provided by the canteen will be a pre-arranged packed lunch.

It will not be possible to send your son/daughter into school without this prior arrangement.

For Year 10 students only, it will also not be possible to guarantee that your son/daughter will see some or any of their usual teachers on these days due to staff availability, working with discrete pods of children and the separate provision in school for children of key workers and vulnerable students. They will be able to see teachers and support staff during those sessions and I would hope that we are able to provide pastoral care, support for continued home learning and some teaching.

For Year 12 students only, I would like to canvass your opinion on whether face to face contact in school with a teacher would be your desired option or whether you would prefer your son/daughter to have an online meeting with their usual teachers. At this stage, it should be possible to arrange for them to see most, if not all of 'their' teachers via an online meeting for an individual instead of the in-school version of this where they would see a teacher. This is include in the survey link below. I will also ask the Year 12 students directly by separate communication.

The Government is also concerned about how students will travel to and from school. Their document says:

Students should be encouraged to walk or cycle where possible. In preparing for wider opening, schools should carefully consider:

- how many students in year 10 and year 12 will be travelling at the same time
- how those students are likely to travel
- the likelihood of students mixing with each other and coming into contact with other people on the journey to and from school

Schools should ensure that the use of public transport to travel to and from school is minimised as far as possible. Where it is totally necessary, this should not be during peak times. Schools should introduce staggered start and end times as appropriate to help achieve this.

Schools should give clear messages to students about minimising the use of public transport and how to reduce the risks of transmission outside of school. Schools should consider the potential for broader social mixing outside school when deciding their approach and communicate with students about not socialising with each other in groups outside school.

Once we have an indication of numbers of students who will want to be included in this wider provision, we will need to alter the timings of the school day.

**Please complete the survey [here](#) It must be completed by 5pm on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2020.**

This will help us plan our next steps so that we can keep all members of the school community as safe as possible. Once we know the exact details of how we will arrange things, I will write to you again with details of which day of the week your child will be invited in, timings, entry points to the site and our expectations of the behaviour of the students attending.

Many thanks for your ongoing support. It is very much appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Cole". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "David" and last name "Cole" clearly distinguishable.

David Cole  
Headteacher

Alternative survey link:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=DzCkQQ2bGkGmfhFdWNBVI3wdmwG7tg5NivsGgqi7tkFUNVpFV1U2SkY3ODc3RUVDtzhLT0dWNk5FUy4u>