

"Leaders, staff and governors share a passionate commitment to raise the aspirations and achievement of all the students who attend the school."
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Friday 22nd May 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you and your families are well and remain in good health.

Please can I apologise for the lengthy letter – I am sure you can appreciate that I want to ensure clarity for all.



Firstly, can I take this opportunity to thank you for your messages of support and well wishes to our staff in recent weeks. We have received many appreciative comments regarding the college assemblies and newsletters as well as the recent 'well-being' video from our staff. Over the coming weeks we will endeavour to maintain and increase this kind of face to face contact wherever we can so that we continue to maintain and strengthen our relationships with you. I know that it is these relationship building opportunities that our staff are missing most.

Last week I mentioned that the Government had announced the re-opening of schools in England in line with their Covid-19 recovery strategy. The main focus of re-opening is on Primary Schools. Secondary schools have been asked to increase the amount of 'face to face' support for Year 10 and Year 12 students. Since this announcement, we have been considering how best and safely to do this. We remain in ongoing consultation with parents, our staff and our trade union colleagues to this end. **I want to reassure you that we will not re open until the best advice available indicates that it is safe to do so.**

I hope you will agree, it is important that we take time to consider appropriately the various aspects involved in ensuring that the school is as safe as possible for both staff and students. To help us do this, schools in Coventry will organise 're-set' days for staff which will focus on understanding the relevant health and safety regulations, in line with Government guidance and Public Health advice. These days will take place in school during the week beginning June 1st. During the week the school will be deep cleaned and thoroughly prepared for potential re opening.

That said, I can confirm that from June 1st school will remain closed to all pupils apart from children of key workers and vulnerable children; this is the same group of children who have been allowed to attend school since lockdown began.

Whilst I cannot yet confirm a date for year 10 and 12 students returning, I can outline what our intended plans are;

When school re opens for students:

- **Year 10 and Year 12** students will have **one session per week in school** of between **2-3 hours**. This may be on a rotation of AM/PM slots over different days each week. Students will be notified well in advance of their allocated time slot.
- Upon entry into the school building, students will be given clear instructions around 'social distancing', safe use of the toilet areas and the importance of regular hand washing. Hand sanitizers will be available for use in all teaching classrooms, and other key areas of the school building and students will be actively encouraged to use them. The school has undertaken a huge cleaning audit and every step and measure has been taken to ensure that we keep the highest levels of cleanliness possible. There will be visible signage on walls/floors.
- Students will have to wash their hands on entry and when exiting the building and will be encouraged to do so at regular intervals during their time in school

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- There will be class sizes of **8 students** which will be the same group of students at all times to maintain 'social bubbling' and 'social distancing'. 'Social bubbling' means to meet up with a small defined group of people as to limit the amount of contact they have with others.
- Students will use the same classroom/desks at all times and will not share equipment.
- Students will only have face to face contact with one member of staff to maintain 'social bubbling'.
- Students may have a staggered start and finish times to avoid peak travel times and avoid contact with other students.
- The shorter time in school will mean that there is no lunchtime as we currently know it and that breaks will be taken in the classroom
- **Focus whilst in school:** students will not be following their normal timetable and will be allocated one member of staff who will mentor and support their work, help organise their timetable, and keep abreast of their general well-being.

Please note: there will be a new timetable of online tutorials for **all year 10 and Year 12** students to access at home, which will be issued after half term.

If you are a Parent/Carer of a Year 10 or Year 12 student, in order for us to assess the new learning arrangements thoroughly, I would be very grateful if you would complete the survey below by Monday 1st June 2020.

[For the parent survey](#)

Children of Key workers and Vulnerable Students

Please be aware that the school will be closed to all students (including children of key workers and vulnerable students) during May Half Term. We will be open again **from Monday 1st June (just for children of key workers and vulnerable students)** and we will issue new guidance regarding the provision for these children as we gradually reopen for Year 10 and Year 12 students.

Year 7-9 Students:

Obviously, the school will still **not** be open for these students until further notice. Staff will continue to set work for students on the Key Documents section on the front page of the website. All assemblies and newsletters have encouraged students to access their work through these pages. Further guidance will come out after Half Term on how we can further support KS3 students. We know that you are all working hard to support a positive learning environment which can be difficult at times when working at home.

We know that this is a worrying time for us all as we listen to the news and wait to hear daily and weekly updates from the Government officials. Please be aware that Government guidance continually changes, often daily, and so we have to adapt to these changes. There is an important Government announcement due on **Thursday 28th May**. I will obviously update you on any significant changes that may affect schools following this announcement. Please do not forget that we are here to try and help you as much as we can so please let us know how we may support you further. Thank you for your continued support and please stay safe and healthy.

Kindest regards,



Mr Clayton - Headteacher