

18/05/2020

To the Parents of all Year 10 students

Dear all

Firstly, I hope that you are all keeping safe and well and managing these difficult times as well as is possible.

We are all now very conscious that Year 10 students have been out of school since the second part of March. Whilst I am extremely grateful to the teaching staff for all their hard work on setting on-line work, it is no substitute for face to face interactive teaching.

From the governments point of view their directive is as follows.

*“From 1 June 2020, we expect that secondary schools and colleges will be able to offer some face to face contact with year 10 and year 12 pupils. This will not be a return to full timetables or pupils back in school or college full time, rather some support to supplement pupils’ remote education.”*

I think we all would like students back to school, but in a safe well-managed manner. My challenge is to balance keeping staff and students safe and socially distanced whilst increasing the engagement with learning.

What my current proposal is based on a series of “masterclasses.” (We tend to do these in the run up to GCSEs in Year 11.) This would involve Year 10 students coming into the main school hall in groups (approx. 30/35) either for an am or pm sitting and working at correctly distanced exam tables. Hand sanitising would happen on arrival and exit, and the room would be well cleaned after they had left. They would then have an hour and a half “master class” from either English, Maths or Science. Once a session ended the students would remain where they were seated, and another session would begin. There would be no break, lunch and wherever possible we would avoid students using school facilities such as toilets, phones etc. (There would be a morning session for one group and an afternoon session for another group.) This would be planned out throughout the week, for each group to cover English, Maths and Science.

Academy expectations of student conduct would be high, as we would need mature, sensible behaviour to make this work; full school uniform, on time arrival, full equipment and understanding that the facilities are not available. Any staff or students who wished to wear face masks or gloves would be welcome to, but it wouldn’t be compulsory.

My aim would be to trial this model for a couple of weeks in June, dependant on Government advice and feedback from staff and students as to how successful it is. In the background all other areas of

support would continue and develop further, pastoral calls home, key worker student education, and on-line resources.

Why am I writing to you? Mainly to get feedback on this model. For me it gives the best opportunity for meaningful education whilst still ensuring safety for staff, students, and families.

Please see the link below to a "google form." Please take one minute to feedback your thoughts on this model and whether you would be likely to take up this provision for your child.

[Questionnaire](#)

Best wishes, I am looking forward to the feedback

Keep safe

Mr T P Body  
Headteacher