

25.05.20

To the Parents of all Year 10 students

Dear all

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

Thank you so much for completing the questionnaire I sent out previously. It is extremely helpful to gauge your responses. To date, I have had 137 responses, which is about 80% of the year group, so thank you all. The responses for the "key question" are summarised below;

Based on a series of "core subject masterclasses" how likely are you to send your child back to school?

137 responses



It is no surprise to me that there is a real mixture, with the majority still unsure about sending their child in, which we can understand. Please be clear, we will try to balance the needs of the students as well as though of parents and teachers, whilst listening to the Government and unions.

So, what next? Well I will continue to look at a plan based on the one I emailed; however, I'm not confirming when it will start. I will look at staffing, complete a risk assessment, listen to the DFE and the Teaching unions and then come back to you all. The model I outlined, is in my opinion the best and safest way of having some face to face time.

To answer some of the questions that arose;

- FSM vouchers will continue as I don't believe that it is safe to open the school canteen yet.

- The issue of toilets, of course they will be available for use, but discouraged as I can see risk there. So, we would only have one open and there would be a strict cleaning regime in place.
- More “on-line” lessons and interaction. I am hoping that all families have had form tutor contact, by phone and email, but I do understand that teacher communication is limited. Mrs Keys has been writing with staff to increase the interaction and she will be writing to you to let you know what to expect.
- Why three hours? 50% of you said that you were happy with this. I know it does not help all families, in some respects, but I hope you can see that I need to limit the amount of time students are on-site. Sitting for three hours I know is a long time, however they do have two and a half hour exams next year, so we thought it was manageable. I will remind you that vulnerable students and those of key workers have been attending the academy from 9 until 2 each day, since this situation began.
- Practical subjects. I think we all agree that for some practical subjects, such as Art, that on-line learning can only do so much, so we will look at how we could get some students in for practical sessions.

I am meeting senior staff on Monday; at which time we will further discuss our plans and I will come back to you. At that point I can give you a greater indication as to what is happening and more detail on the safety aspects of any model we suggest. Alongside this Mrs keys will contact you regarding increasing engagement and communication between students and teachers.

Best wishes, and thank you

Keep safe

Mr T P Body
Headteacher