

8<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Coronavirus Update 16**

Our plans have moved forward a little since I last wrote and it is important that all of you are aware of how our thoughts are evolving.

The site team has been working on some of the everyday practicalities involved in making our site safe for use by larger numbers of students and staff. These include a reshaping of the main reception, creating a COVID isolation room, relocating the medical room and devising one-way systems for each area of the buildings.

Over the next few days we shall be sending some individual letters to invite certain members of Year 10 into the school on a limited basis during the week beginning Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> June. These letters will set out all the details of the arrangements and I do not need to go into them here, but I do want all parents to have a broad knowledge of what we are doing.

Throughout next week we shall be offering some direct help to certain members of Year 10 who have struggled to adapt to working online. They will be spread across the site and work in appropriately spaced groups of no more than six.

Separately, we shall continue to cater for the handful of students whose parents or carers are key workers in need of childcare during the school day.

During the mornings of Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> June and Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June we are inviting members of the Year 10 S band – some 63 students in all – to come in for groups of lessons in the core subjects of English, Maths and Science. They too will be dispersed and taught in groups which are smaller than their normal classes. In the afternoons of Monday 15<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> we shall also be running a limited number of classes in the Optional subjects.

During the week following – the week beginning Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> June – we intend to run some classes for members of Year 12.

Each of these steps, when set against the size of the school as a whole, may seem cautious. This is exactly what they are intended to be. We do want to supplement our online teaching with something closer to the normal high school experience, but the risks involved mean that we have to prepare carefully and test the effectiveness of our plans. There is no escaping the fact that reopening will ask a lot of everyone, not least of our students.

I will close by reiterating that we shall be sending more detail of the new arrangements to the parents or carers of every student who is directly involved.

With my best wishes for a safe and healthy week,

Yours sincerely,



Natalie Waters