



22nd May 2020

Update re COVID-19 Response Wider Opening of Schools

Dear Students and Parents/Carers

We hope that you and your family are staying safe and well and that you have managed to develop a routine that enables you to continue to complete your work and remain positive during what are incredibly challenging times.

You will be aware that a number of steps are being taken that will, hopefully, enable us to resume our usual routines which include returning to school for some face-to-face learning to complement the work you are undertaking at home. Across our three secondary schools, your teachers are looking forward to welcoming you back to school where you can continue to learn and most importantly benefit from the support of your friends and teachers.

As we approach the end of the short summer half-term, we would like to update you with the latest information that we have about the plans we have for next half-term. As you are aware, the government has stated that it expects secondary schools **will be able to offer some face-to-face contact with Year 10 and Year 12 pupils from 1st June 2020 at the earliest**. The exact date cannot be confirmed because it is reliant on meeting the 'five tests' set by the government. We are still waiting for further guidance from the Department for Education regarding the wider opening for secondary schools, but it is highly likely that provision will not involve regular timetabled lessons. Careful planning and risk assessment will need to take place ahead of wider opening. Therefore, your school will not be able to offer face-to-face provision in the week commencing 1st June. Once we have further details of the arrangement which will enable us to complete our planning and assessment of risk, you will be contacted regarding next steps. We can assure you that in all our planning, student and staff safety will remain a primary concern. Until arrangements for any return to school are in place, please continue with the learning that is being set by your teachers for you to complete at home.

As we break up for the official half-term week, we send our warmest wishes to you and your families.

Yours sincerely

Catherine Garrett
Co-CEO

Helen Pratten
Co-CEO

