

J/DR/CLets/Lets/Yr10/MsM

10th June 2020

Dear Parents & Carers,

RE: Re-opening of School for pupils in Year 10.

I hope that this letter finds you and your family safe and well. Following my letters before half term and last week you will be aware that we have been making robust plans to enable pupils in Year 10 to attend school before the end of term in July. The reasons for doing this are:

- To support and consolidate learning they have undertaken while the school building has been closed for most pupils.
- To reassure pupils who may be concerned about their GCSE examinations next year.
- To support children in coping with the impact of 'lockdown.'
- To help pupils make a strong start when we return, in a more formal sense, in the Autumn term.

As I have stated previously, the safety of children their parents and staff and their families is my foremost concern. Therefore, our risk assessments have been shared with staff, unions and the Local Authority and these will be scrutinised by the Governors of Hollingworth Academy and the Trustees of our Multi-Academy Trust (Hollingworth Learning Trust) before any plans are put into place.

I would like to reassure you that we want all of our children back in school as much as you do. There is real value for pupils to attend. Huge amounts of planning have gone into keeping your children as safe as possible. The steps we will be taking are outlined below.

- Pupils will be assigned a class group of no more than (and probably less than) 14 pupils. Each class group will be given a week to attend school before the end of term. There will be up to five groups attending each week. In order to support social distancing, each group will start and end at a different time. You will be provisionally informed of the week your child is invited to attend on Thursday.
- We will run an induction session for each tutor group next week. These will last for an hour and fifteen minutes and be staggered throughout the week and held in the theatre. The purpose of this session is to ensure that all pupils understand the behaviours and routines everyone in the building must follow in order to keep us all safe. We will also do some PSCH work based upon the challenges they are facing as part of 'lockdown' and their aspirations for the future. You will be informed on Thursday (tomorrow) via social media and text message, of the day next week your child will be invited to attend. Pupils will not be permitted to attend their week at school unless they have attended the induction session.
- On Thursday, we will send you details concerning the first two points as well as links to videos we are making of social distancing practices and routines in the building. We will also send a very brief survey. It is essential that we get a return from everyone for this, as it gives us clarity about who is planning to attend and also to address any concerns you may have. The turnaround for this will be very short and will close at 12.00pm on Friday. We would be grateful if you are able to help us with this.

- We will not expect pupils to wear school uniform. On arrival, pupils will walk straight up to their designated room in the science corridor. Each room has many sinks which will enable us to ensure that there is regular handwashing. The rooms are large and are now set up with clear socially distanced seats. Pupils will only be taught in that classroom all week and will not move about the building. Lessons will begin at a staggered start time between 8.30am and 9.10am. This will mean that there will be a staggered end to the day between 12.30pm and 1.10pm. Like many secondary schools, we are not offering lunch, as maintaining social distancing would be exceptionally difficult. We will be sharing more details concerning this on Thursday and at induction sessions next week.
- Government guidance states that we must not mix different groups (or 'bubbles') of pupils. This means that we are focussing the provision in school on English, Mathematics and Science with PSCE, study skills and an online workshop as well. Please be aware that this provision is not designed to replace online learning and this will carry on as normal for foundation subjects.

You will know, as well as I, that these are challenging times. I have been really humbled by the work staff and children have done and the support we have had from parents and carers. I appreciate that I have just given you a lot of information, with more to be published tomorrow. As parents, you have the right to make your own decision to send your child to school. However, we sincerely hope you will make that choice. To support parents and carers we are running a Facebook Q&A session for parents of pupils in Year 10 tomorrow night between 7.00pm and 8.00pm.

Yours faithfully,

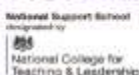


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RESPECT



RESPONSIBILITY



RESILIENCE



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