



12th May, 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Coronavirus update 12

Given the recent statements from the Government, I wanted to let you know as soon as I could how we are intending to respond.

The Government has stated that they “*will ask secondary schools [...] to offer some face-to-face support to supplement the remote education of year 10 and year 12 students [...] alongside the full-time provision they are offering to priority groups*” (ie key workers’ children, and students who are classified as ‘vulnerable’).

The Government has not asked us to make any arrangements to educate Key Stage 3 students onsite. In my opinion, therefore, it seems very unlikely at the moment that any boy in Year 7, Year 8 or Year 9 will be able to return to school until September at the earliest. I am aware how potentially difficult this will be, both for these youngsters’ education, and, potentially, for their well-being. We will, of course, continue to do as much as we can to support them in both these areas throughout the summer months ahead.

The “*face-to-face support*” for Year 10 and Year 12 students will be in addition to our current provision – indeed, it will “*supplement*” it. The online learning we are providing every day, and the onsite childcare provision, now therefore look set to continue until the end of this term. If your son or daughter is entitled to attend school, please do reconsider with them whether it would be wise for them to do so. I am particularly aware that some of our most vulnerable students could benefit from coming into school, as a few have recently started doing.

We are discussing internally what the “*face-to-face support*” may look like. It will not be full-time provision in school – it will simply “*supplement*” the “*remote education*” we are currently offering. It is highly unlikely to start on 1st June, and it is unlikely it will be compulsory – although we would expect every student to attend unless there are medical reasons why they should not. We will, of course, let you know when students in Years 10 and 12 should attend school, and what arrangements will be in place to ensure social distancing and health-and-safety guidance is observed.

Finally, please don’t think we’ve forgotten about students in Years 11 and 13! We’re grateful to Year 11 families for the great response we’ve had for our ‘bridging courses’, and Mr Lawton is continuing to keep in touch with Year 13 students as they start to prepare for their next stage.

I will write again on Friday, when we may have a clearer idea about the shape of things to come.

Yours faithfully

Stephen Brierley
Principal.