



22 May 2020

Dear Families,

Expansion of Educational Provision for Years 10 and 12

When I wrote to you last week I committed to updating you before half term as to how our planning was progressing in relation to the Government plans to expand educational provision. As you know this is intended to include some face to face sessions for students preparing for public examinations next year.

Over the past week much time has been spent keeping up-to-date with emerging Government and Local Authority advice, some of which is still to be published. We have spoken with all staff to consult with them about how we ensure a supportive and safe environment and importantly how we best use face to face time with students whilst still supporting those who are not on site with us. We also have to navigate doing this with the practical restrictions of social distancing guidelines. This will inevitably mean our site teams will be making some physical and structural changes to the parts of the academy buildings that will be in use.

Our plans are progressing well and we now need to gather more information from our families in order to understand how we can serve our students best. I would very much appreciate your time in completing the attached family survey. This information will help us to understand your views and needs. *Please see this as giving us a guide to your current thoughts; we understand they may change – particularly when asking if your child will be returning to the physical school site when we are able to offer provision.*

The survey can be accessed [here](#). Please complete this by **10.00am Tuesday 26 May**. I realise this is a short deadline but the sooner we have the information, the more meaningfully we can use it to shape our planning.

As you know the Government will be revisiting expansion proposals on Thursday 28 May and so until then we are only making provisional plans. There will be no change to educational provision on 1 June. We will return from half term to exactly what is in place now with all students working remotely, using resources supplied by their teachers. During that week we would expect to be able to make firm plans which we anticipate will begin during week beginning 8 June. I outlined some points about what they may look like, last week:

- sessions with teachers will focus on delivering input associated to the work set on-line
- there will not be return to a full timetable
- students will not attend every day
- start and end times of the day will be different and the day will be much shorter

We are looking at the introduction of a new on-line platform to mean we are able to offer students some additional face to face input without them having to come to the academy buildings.

You will be aware that the Government have spoken about offering schools assistance in providing laptops for Year 10 students without ICT facilities at home. We are aware of students without computers at home and as soon as we have confirmation about if we are going to receive help, we will be in touch with those families.

Next week is half term. Although teachers will not be setting work for students our Admin Team will be providing some coverage in checking messages and emails that come in to the Academy and so if anything urgent comes up you can still get in touch with us. Although responses may not be immediate.

Thank you again for your continued support, positive feedback and also for everything you are doing to support our students' learning at home. We really do understand the pressure this is putting on everyone concerned and be assured – whatever you are doing, however you are doing it - it will be making a difference.

Enjoy the break and Collette Nelson, Head of School will be in touch during the first week back with further details of our education expansion offer.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniel Hatley', with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Daniel Hatley
Executive Principal