

14th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you and your family are well.

You will have seen on the news this week that the Government are wanting schools to open up gradually to students from 1st June. The Government guidance gives specific advice for special schools -

'Special schools and special post-16 institutions should work towards welcoming back as many children and young people as can be safely catered for in their setting.'

In the light of this statement and the mainstream expectations for Year 10 students, I have been working with the team to put a plan together -

- From 1st June we will be offering every student one day per week in school. Year 10s will be offered 2 days each week. This will be the same day/s each week.
- Students will work in a small group of up to 5 students and 2 staff from their pastoral group.
- Groups will work in their pastoral classroom and not access any other part of school apart from to go to the toilet and to collect their dinner.
- Students will have their own desk, seat and resources (pens, pencils etc.)
- Groups will have at least 1 hours outside activity during the day - in their group.
- Groups will eat their dinner in their classroom.
- Any child who wanders out of their classroom and does not keep the social distancing rules within the classroom will be sent home, following discussion with parents/carers.
- Frequent handwashing will be scheduled into their day.
- Antibacterial wipes, tissues and hand sanitiser will be available in all classrooms.
- Classrooms will be cleaned thoroughly at the end of each day.
- Children who are shielding will still need to remain at home.

Current Year 11 students who are staying on into the 6th Form WILL be part of the above arrangements.



Debbie Gerring **Headteacher**

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This plan allows us to -

- keep social distancing rules as best we can
- keep any cross contamination to a minimum
- keep everyone as safe as we can
- have a platform that we can build on and extend for students as the advice changes and the lockdown is further eased
- give all children access to our school again in a gradual, considered and safe way.

I am awaiting policy and advice from Derby City and Derbyshire County Councils with regard to transport to school. I will update you as I hear from them.

Government guidance states - 'wearing a face covering or face mask in schools is not recommended schools should therefore not require staff, children and learners to wear face coverings'. Staff and students will, therefore, not be required to wear a face mask, but will be respected if they choose to do so.

The Government are clear that families choosing not to send their child back to school yet, will not be fined or prosecuted.

A member of the team will be in touch with you directly at some point over the next couple of days to pick up any questions you may have.

I will be in touch with specific days and times for your child as we finalise the plan.

I thank you all for your continued support as we move forwards together to slowly and safely build our school community back up.

With kind regards,



Debbie Gerring
Headteacher



Jeff Howe
Chair of Governors



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