

Update 15

I hope you are all well and keeping safe.

Year 10 and 12 lessons have been really well received so far and students have appreciated the support from teachers and staff on site. Many children are also accessing the programme of online lessons that we have available too across all year groups, which is fantastic.

Please let us know if you need support with the online lesson provision or if your child is in year 10 and 12 and wishes to come back into school if they have not already. Last week I sent information via a video link about our safe working measures and have now released a virtual tour for our children who are joining us in September. The link for this is <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j0JJi7wV-tY>

The student leadership team have been an influential force behind creating these videos. They have been in school supporting us with a number of projects so that we are ready for September. I would like to say a very big 'thank you' to these students and I look forward to working with them again in the autumn.

Staff have continued to work hard on the safe working measures and we review these daily. Teaching staff have loved working face to face with students, both on site and from home. I am grateful to have such a strong team who have worked collectively to try to give all children the best chance of staying on track.

There has been a lot of talk in the media about a recovery curriculum and as I type today, Gavin Williamson, the Education Secretary is in Parliament outlining the plans that he will share with schools today. We will work really hard to reconnect your children with their learning and will continue to be as ambitious as possible. This is not about leaving children behind, this is about taking everyone with us. A strong tide really does raise all ships – we will do our very best to ensure all children are able to access the right level of learning and catch up on any gaps they might have as a result of them not being in school.

We recognise that some children will have really flourished by having a more flexible learning routine and access to online live sessions. Equally, we know that there is the other end of the scale where some children will not have accessed much of the learning available for their own reasons. Please be assured that we will make initial assessments based on what we know now and we will support this with assessments and checks that we will do when children are (hopefully) back in school in September. Once we have a better idea of what learning children have accessed, and where they need more support, we will group students in a way that will support and challenge them best.

The government guidance will give us parameters to work within but ultimately we will do what we need to do to remain as safe as possible.

We currently have two plans in place for results Days for year 11 and 13. Our preference would be that results are distributed face to face in school. This will enable us to celebrate with students and to provide support for all those who feel they will need it. We will send more details out before the end of term so that you know the arrangements for this. The other plan is for us to distribute results via email. We have got this as a backup plan just in case of any local lock down arrangements that might be in place closer to the time.

Dr Jones and I will write to you very soon to give you clearer information about the arrangements for September. We will need a few days to digest the announcements made by the government today and get these plans in place so please be patient with us.

For now, another thank you. Families have been an amazing support to us at school and we have had some really lovely messages from many of you. Thank you for your ideas, your help and your efforts at home with your children. We know it has not been easy.

If you do have any concerns or if you just feel you need to talk to someone to reassure yourself about the arrangements, please do get in touch with your relevant year office. We are here to help at every point.

Best wishes,



**Ms Mason**  
**Head of School**