



16th July 2020

Dear Parents/carers

September opening

Guided by the most recent Government publication and approval by the governing body on Tuesday 14th July, I can now share the plans for the school opening to all students in September. This information can be found in the accompanying 'Frequently Asked Questions' document and the 'Risk Assessment' document. Please read the FAQ document carefully and talk through these arrangements at home. As mentioned further details on some of the issues will follow in due course.

The return is something I hugely welcome but in order to make this a viable and sustainable option it is crucial that appropriate arrangements are in place and understood by the whole school community. Our school will look and feel different to students on their return in September. To support them, our staff and I will do as much as possible to maintain an environment conducive to learning but one that will also support wellbeing, education and inclusion.

Although this feels as if this situation has lasted forever, in fact our young people will have lost, at worst, 70 days of school. During this time many of them have worked hard using online resources and in recent weeks, many have attended the online lessons delivered by our staff. I know that there are worries about the gaps there may be in some knowledge and understanding but staff are taking this into account in their planning. We are all determined that your children will be as ready for the world as any other students at any other time and they will not be at a disadvantage. Staff are working to adapt curricula to make sure, on their return, students get the learning and knowledge that they need to achieve success in the future. Your children deserve a great and safe education – we will not let them down.

We know school will seem a different place in September but lockdown has proven how quickly we can adapt and get used to a new normal. The time has also reaffirmed and, in fact, strengthened how much of a supportive community we have within and outside the walls of our school building.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your amazing support and for the incredible determination and commitment shown to maintain positivity during this unprecedented time.

Take care and be kind

Yours faithfully

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