

15/5/20

Dear Parents, Carers, Students, Staff and Friends of the School

I hope this letter finds your families thriving and well during these difficult circumstances. Once again, I thank all of you for the support you are showing to Notre Dame staff who have shown professionalism and commitment under the pressures of working from home or supporting those students attending school.

This week we received important news that the Government is intending for schools to begin partially reopening. For primary schools, reception, year 1 and year 6 are the focus. Within the high schools we are being asked to ...

'offer some face-to-face support to supplement the remote education of year 10 and year 12 students who are due to take key exams next year, alongside the full time provision they are offering to priority groups'.

The Government have told us that they have based their decision on scientific advice, which also informs the mechanism by which we will attempt to achieve a safe staggered trial of providing face to face support for year 10 and 12.

We must be clear that the announcement does not mean that Year 10 and 12 will return to their normal timetable. We are restricted by staffing and the absolute necessity to maintain social distancing to the best of our abilities. We must continue to prioritise the health and safety of students, staff and families.

In order for us to finalise our plans for this provision I would ask all parents and carers of Year 10 and 12 to complete the survey using the link below. Please be as accurate as you can and if circumstances change do not hesitate to contact the school. I have attached some further guidance from the government that provides more information on how schools will operate safely. It is largely focussed on primary schools but does provide some idea of how we will also operate.

At the end of next week I will write to all parents and carers of year 10 and 12 providing more detail of what our provision will look like and when it will start. It will not begin on June 1st as safe and successful planning for a worthwhile provision takes time. As you will appreciate, the provision will be highly dependent on the number that are likely to attend.

The remote learning provision, which is influenced by the work of the research school, continues to evolve and is currently under review. We have been trialling a number of different tools including the use of teachers recording their own video explanations and video feedback. We have also been trialling the use of a variety of mechanisms to facilitate feedback. These include google quizzing and google assignments.

Next week we will determine the feasibility of rolling out these technologies to wider audiences and we will write to all parents to explain how our summer term 2 remote learning provision will be structured.

As always, please focus on the links that are pertinent to you and your families. Stay safe and well.

- [Face-to-face support to supplement the remote education of year 10 and year 12 students](#)
- [Guidance to Parents and carers regarding the phased re-opening of schools](#)
- [NHS Health Support](#)

Best wishes,

Tom Pinnington

Face-to-face support to supplement the remote education of year 10 and year 12 students

Following the announcement by the government on Monday, we are looking to prepare for the phased return of our young people back to school; initially this is to support remote learning and not as a replacement. The provision will not reflect student's usual timetables. To allow us to organise a safe provision, we would like you to complete the survey using [this link](#), which will aid us in our planning. Please complete the survey for each student in the household.

Guidance to Parents and carers regarding the phased re-opening of schools

The link [here](#) provides a useful start point for all parents and carers to begin to think about their child or young person returning to school. As the Government release more information, the school will provide further guidance and our plan of what provision will look like and how we will maintain safety will develop in even greater detail.

I also include a link to the most recent version of '*What parents and carers need to know about schools, colleges and other education settings during the coronavirus outbreak*'. Click [here](#).

NHS Health Support

Please follow [this link](#) to access a range of support mechanisms for children through to adults. It includes an important link to the 'JustoneNorfolk' website, which is billed as the 'go to' health website for Norfolk families.