



8<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear parents / carers,

### Term 6 Plans

I am writing to you in order to update you further on the plans for re-opening the academy during Term 6. You will recall that the government guidance can be broadly summarised as follows:

- The earliest date we can have any additional pupils on site is 15th June.
- Existing provision for vulnerable children and critical workers must continue as it is.
- We must provide some face-to-face support to supplement the remote education of year 10 and year 12 pupils, with a clear expectation that **remote education will continue to be the predominant form of education** delivery for these year groups and that this should be of high quality.
- It is up to schools to decide how they want to use face-to-face support in the best interests of their pupils e.g. pastoral support, academic support.
- To continue to use best endeavours to support all other pupils remaining at home, making use of the available remote education support and ensuring a high quality offer.
- Follow social distancing and good hygiene as best you can.
- Discourage use of public transport to get to school.
- Maximum of 25% of Y10/12 pupils onsite on any given day.

Although we have made detailed plans that could continue up to the end of term, we will of course be carefully monitoring the situation and it is entirely possible that this could change with little notice. I also wish to reiterate that my position remains, that the provision detailed below is an offer, but any parent or carer who would prefer for their child not to come into school until September, I respect that decision and we will not be following up attendance in the normal way.

I also want to make it very clear, that while we will do everything we can to minimise the risks to health, both to staff and students, any increase to the number of people on the academy site, will inevitably carry greater risk than staying at home. Any student we feel does not follow our social distancing / hygiene guidelines in school will be sent home and will not be allowed to attend before September. Similarly, if we are made aware that students or families are acting outside of school in a manner that increases the risk of transmission by not following the national guidelines, we reserve the right not to allow them to attend the academy before September, subject to a risk assessment.

### Year 7,8,9,11,13

Students in these year groups will not return during Term 6, although the Key Worker / Vulnerable Group will continue to run as it currently does. Please do contact us if you have any concerns.

### Year 12

I am delighted that the online lessons for year 12 have gone so well over the last couple of weeks. They have reassured me that online lessons are one way that we can reduce the negative impact of how much curriculum time that will be lost over this period. If for any reason you have not accessed these or are having technical difficulties, please do get in touch with the Post 16 team.

Since every Post 16 student has a different selection of subjects, each with a different group of classmates, it is not possible to offer lessons in school, without students mixing with a much wider

number of people than is possible with other year groups. Therefore, for the remainder of Term 6, lessons will continue to be taught online supplemented by a variety of other resources as is currently the case.

Check in pastoral phone calls will continue, but if you feel you would benefit from more support please let the Post 16 team know. Similarly, if there is a reason why you feel it would be beneficial to come into school for a 'face to face' meeting with the Post 16 team, please let them know and we will arrange this on an individual basis.

### **The Domett Centre**

Mrs Edmunds and the rest of The Domett Centre team will continue to liaise with all parents / carers about how best to support individual students, whether remotely or in person. Please contact them if you have any concerns at all.

### **Turnaround Centres**

Children accessing the KS3 Turnaround Centre will continue to receive remote support from the TAC team, please do contact them if you have any questions or concerns.

KS4 students will have the opportunity to have a face to face meeting with Mr James during the week commencing 15<sup>th</sup> June. Parents / carers will shortly receive communication from the TAC team giving an opportunity to make an appointment to do this either in person at the main academy site, or by telephone. Should it be requested, each TAC4 student will have the opportunity to attend school once per week during Term 6 for an individual support session with TAC staff. The logistics of this will be discussed with you during your 'face to face' meeting, but are likely to be on a Tuesday. TAC4 students will also have access to online lessons provided to the rest of Year 10 if they wish to access them.

### **Year 10**

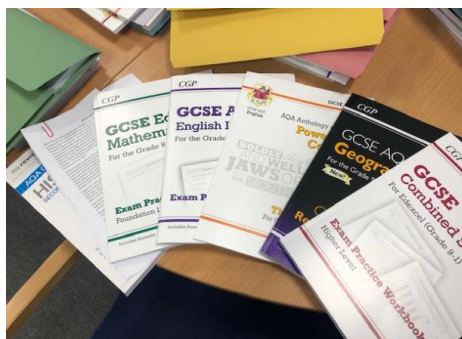
As previously indicated, we intend to offer every student a face to face meeting with a senior member of staff during w/c 15<sup>th</sup> June. Since we know the majority of parents / carers previously indicated they would prefer this to be a remote conversation, we will offer meetings both by telephone or in person and will be shortly sending you an invite to book an appointment using the same app used for parents' evening. You will be able to choose the type of appointment and, subject to availability, which member of staff to meet. Since the 15<sup>th</sup> June date does not apply to telephone conversations, we intend to start these towards the end of this week.

The main purpose of these meetings is to consider the work already completed and support each student to plan how to make the best of their time until September, as well as ensuring all pastoral support we could offer is in place to support each student's wellbeing.

It is our intention to provide as much support as possible, so that any decision to attend school from 22<sup>nd</sup> June is made knowing that a decision to remain safely at home, will not put a child at a further educational disadvantage. This will include starting to access online lessons with teachers and, if successful, these will continue after Term 6 to help support revision and catch up.

Parents / carers will also be asked to complete an online questionnaire, similar to the one completed a few weeks ago, to inform us of their decision re attending school from w/c 22<sup>nd</sup> June, but we suggest this is not completed until after the meeting so that any questions you have can be answered.

Every student will also be given an individualised work pack including revision guides and workbooks for each subject they are studying, a calculator where they do not have one, full stationery packs and a variety of other learning resources. We are also hopeful that we will be in a position to provide ICT support by the meeting for those families who are struggling to access online materials due to a lack of equipment or internet access, but any devices or work packs will be delivered to families who choose not to attend a meeting in person.



At this point, it is still my view that it is safer for staff and students to be at home from w/c 22<sup>nd</sup> June, so the priority is to ensure online learning is of a high enough standard to reduce the educational deficit of staying at home. However, for families who wish to, we will provide the opportunity for students to spend some limited time in school.

Each student will be allowed to attend for one day each week; organised by mini school Mon-Thur. It is our intention that there will be some support provided during this time for core subjects. Options subjects cannot be logistically organised while minimising the number of people each student will come into contact with while on site. Work and lessons will continue online for all subjects.

For the first week (22<sup>nd</sup> June), students will attend 10am-12pm. This will avoid rush hour and ensure arrival and departure at a different time to the Key Worker students. It also ensures that for the first week we can run without the added complication of providing lunch in a safe socially distanced manner. I also feel that following such a long period of time out of school, some students would find it hard to be in school with the restrictions below for more than a couple of hours on their first day. We will review this each week.

Students should not wear uniform. Students will arrive and go directly into the plaza, where they will stay until they enter the building. We expect students to maintain social distancing on the way to and from school and to avoid public transport if possible. On the plaza, benches have been arranged and yellow markings have been added to ensure students can gather in as safe a way as possible. Students will enter and leave the building via the English stairs, which have also had markings added to support social distancing.



All lessons will be based in the English open area, with students given a single desk where they will spend the whole time they are in lessons, strict social distancing will apply, as will strict hygiene including hand washing and sanitisation. Students will be given stationery packs, there will be no sharing of equipment. Students will not be allowed to leave the English area; the English toilets will be used and subject to a regular cleaning programme, as will the entire area used by students. It is expected that the SDL for each mini school will be able to attend school on the appropriate day, so that we can support with any pastoral issues, but as with all of these plans, this is subject to change as the welfare of staff will be a high priority.

Any Year 10 students who attend the current Key Worker group in school will be able to continue to attend as now or join the Year 10 groups for one day per week, it will not be possible to do both as this would involve mixing between two groups of students. Should it be necessary, for example a student contracting COVID19, the entire group attending that day is likely to be asked to self isolate for 14 days, or in line with the guidance at the time.

I hope that this helps to explain our plans from now until the end of term. We are already thinking a lot about how September might look, but at this stage we have no more information than you, so are not in a position to offer any clarity at this point. We will continue to communicate with you as and when things are updated.

Best wishes and take care.

Shaun Simmons  
Principal