

29.06.2020

Dear Parent/Carer

As you will be aware, the government asked schools to reopen for Y10 students from 15 June, this has now been completed and I am writing to give you some details of our plan to support Y9 students before the end of the academic year.

We will, of course, continue to maintain our provision that we have offered since March to the children of critical workers and vulnerable children. These arrangements remain unchanged.

My absolute priority is to ensure we only open to more students if it is safe to do so and with a robust risk assessment in place, I am confident that we can now support Y9 students. I would like to make it very clear that my expectation, in line government guidance, is that this will be phased with very small numbers in the academy at any one time. All other year groups will continue with their online learning and will not be in school.

In order to ensure that I have an accurate overview of the number of Y9 students who are likely to return to school in July, it would help me if you would let me know if your intention is to send your child(ren) to school to access the limited provision that will be offered. This information will allow me to plan for safe staffing levels to support the children in the academy.

This will not be normal school provision and will be part-time and operate in line with social distancing measures, and in line with the government guidance. This provision will allow some face to face contact with students in year 9 to complement their online learning to help progress their studies further during the summer term.

The link to the survey is;

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc\\_WI5uL-AvuMckOhqppq5D2rVPMc7iqsuM-CiK01O8Z6Q68kQ/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc_WI5uL-AvuMckOhqppq5D2rVPMc7iqsuM-CiK01O8Z6Q68kQ/viewform?usp=sf_link)

This has also been sent to you by text but you only need to complete the survey **once** for each child. Please complete this survey by 1 July 2020.

### **Our Approach to Opening**

1. From 1st July, we will contact students in year 9 by text to confirm the time and dates for the face to face support they will receive prior to the summer break.
2. Once these arrangements are made, the face to face contact will be to meet with a member of school staff for a 90 minute session.
  - a. This face to face support will be in very small groups;
  - b. There will be little opportunity for social mixing;
  - c. Additional hygiene, cleaning and social distancing measures will apply.
  - d. Students must arrive at school at 8.45am and enter the school via the sports hall. Please ensure your child watched the guidance video below before they attend for their session <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UWcs3VYrTkE>
  - e. This provision will focus on pastoral support, mental health and wellbeing, academic support and planning for September 2020.

## Online Learning

The aim of the face to face support is to supplement online learning. Online learning will be the main focus for students' study for the remainder of the academic year. We will continue to seek to strengthen this online provision, supported by our face to face arrangements and interventions.

In these unprecedented times, where we have all had to learn and work in different ways, I would like to thank you for your amazing support with your child's online learning and for the encouragement you have given your child to continue to learn online. Please continue to do this. It makes a great difference.

I am very much looking forward to seeing the children back in the building, albeit in a very limited and different way. We will all be working in a different, socially-distanced way and we appreciate your support in reinforcing with your child the importance of social distancing, good respiratory hygiene and hand-washing.

In the meantime, I would ask you to wait for your text to confirm your child's arrangements for the face to face support they will receive. To ensure we are following government guidance and there is only ever 25% of the year group in the academy any students who wish to return **MUST** have an allocated return place. Therefore if you do make the decision to allow your child to return you **MUST** complete the survey.

If you change your mind, you should email Mr Middleton at: [i.middleton@bydales.outwood.com](mailto:i.middleton@bydales.outwood.com) to enable him to allocate your child a place. Students cannot just turn up to the academy as all places are allocated individually to allow us to ensure social distancing measures are in place and we minimise transmission. If you have any questions or concerns, please do get in touch via the 'Contact Us' section of the website.

Yours faithfully



**Seana Rice**

**Principal**