

20 May 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Possible phased reopening of Reepham High School and College

Firstly, I wanted to thank you again for all your support throughout this difficult time. You are doing a fantastic job implementing the home learning provided by your child's teachers, and I know that our combined efforts will ensure that pupils do not get behind in their studies. I hope my emails have kept you generally informed and that, somehow, we have found a routine that has worked for us all.

As you will be aware, the government has announced that some children could potentially return to school in a phased manner **if circumstances are considered to be right**. As I write, there is much debate nationally as to whether this will happen or if it will be delayed, but I wanted to write to let you know what will happen if we do start to re-open. **I will confirm the start of any possible reopening when I know this, but I can say it would not be until June 15th at the very earliest.**

Years 7, 8 & 9

What we do know, unfortunately, is that pupils in years 7, 8 and 9 will not return to school until September at the earliest. This means they have to continue to work in their current routine. Now that we know that I will be asking staff, probably tutors, to make personal contact with each pupil to thank them for their work, recognise their efforts, encourage continued high standards and to make sure they know their work is valued and appreciated. We will also let them know how much we are looking forward to seeing them again! I will write to each KS3 pupil and explain what is happening.

Year 10 and 12

The initial focus of any return to school for Year 10 and 12 pupils will be re-connecting them with learning across the core subjects and giving them access to subject specialist teachers. What we would aim to do is provide some contact time for those pupils already studying GCSE and A level courses. This would not be a normal timetable, and would almost certainly not be anything like full time. Although plans have yet to be drawn up, this might be as little as one day per week per pupil. It would however be a chance for face to face support time, focussing initially on the core subjects. When not in school, Year 10 and 12 students will continue to have work set via Office365.

Any plans for re-opening will depend on the national picture in relation to Covid-19 infections.

Plans will also be shaped by us knowing how many pupils we should expect in school if we do re-open in any way, so we are asking parents of Year 10 & 12 students to complete the online survey. Please click on the link [Y10&Y12 possible phased re-opening](#)

Our plans will be formulated taking into consideration government guidance and the guidance provided by professional bodies including unions. **We will prioritise the health and safety of staff and pupils throughout. This will always remain our priority and our plans are underpinned by detailed risk assessment.**

We understand the anxiety that many parents will have over returning their children to school in the current situation. There is no compulsion to do so at the moment and it is therefore your choice whether you do. If you choose not to send your child to school there will be no repercussions in line with the school's usual Attendance procedures. Obviously, it goes without saying we would not expect anyone considered vulnerable to attend, and it is parents' responsibility to make decisions regarding attendance of vulnerable children, or children who might live with other vulnerable individuals.

Your initial response to the survey will not be taken as your final answer going forward. It might be that, as next half term progresses, you feel more confident about face-to-face sessions in school and then wish to take up a place. There will be a clear process to follow if this is the case, so that we always know who we are expecting in school. We are very aware that parents and carers have a great deal to consider too.

Parents of Years 10 & 12 can help us to plan by letting us know their intentions in relation to their children attending face-to-face learning sessions in school, **if we are able to return on a phased basis. We would ask parents of pupils in Year 10 & 12, to complete the survey by clicking on the above link.**

If you could do this by 9am on Monday 1st June it would be greatly appreciated. This will inform our decision making and will also help us to plan for issues such as school transportation and school meals provision.

Thank you again for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Tim Gibbs