

5 June 2020

Dear Parent and Year 12 student

**Year 12 students having the opportunity to engage face-to-face with members of staff in school**

I sincerely hope all of you are well at this time and are managing to cope as well as possible with the demands and considerable challenge that this current situation has presented everyone with.

As I have shared in weekly bulletins and via our 'Beechwood News' programme, we are very much looking forward to a time when we can begin to work with more of our young people and have been making plans to do so. It is our sincerest hope now that once the Facilities' Management Company has finalised all elements of health, safety and hygiene and cleaning matters relating to our site and building, that we will be able to open for more students. Our current intention is that from Monday 15 June we will begin working with Year 10 and from Monday 22 June we will begin working with Year 12.

The government guidance is clear that on any given day we can only have small numbers of students in school and that any face-to-face provision will necessarily be limited because of the difficult context we are all still in as infection control needs to be pursued whilst seeking to gradually ease lockdown measures. The guidance from the DfE is clear that home learning/remote education will remain the main focus of students' efforts and engagement for the remainder of this academic year but, for students who are at a critical stage in their school careers, some face-to-face support at this time can only be helpful. We absolutely agree about the value of this personal interaction. We are very keen to engage in this face-to-face provision with our young people and have drawn up plans that we believe will support well-being and learning whilst also ensuring that we reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission as much as it is possible to do. As a consequence, we are urging all our Year 12 young people to engage in the following offer of support and extra provision.

Week beginning 22 June 2020

Students will be invited to attend an individual meeting with a member of staff to focus on how they have been doing, their well-being and academic engagement and progress since we went into the period of lockdown. This meeting is intended to be fully supportive and enable all to understand the impact of this extended period of absence from school and what now needs to be done to ensure as little detriment as possible results from this experience. Families will be sent a letter detailing the arrangements for those individual meetings. This will also include information about our social distancing and hygiene protocols and how the school site and building needs to be accessed to ensure that all reasonable measures are taken to reduce risk. If any young person has visited a supermarket recently, then they will know a little of what to expect regarding queuing measures, markings on the ground/floor, signage and hand sanitising etc.

Week beginning 29 June 2020

Students will be asked to attend subject sessions. These sessions will run in the afternoon from 1 pm to 3 pm.

On Monday Option A will take place.

On Tuesday Option B will take place.

On Wednesday Option C will take place.

On Thursday Option D will take place.

On Friday Option E will take place.

Students only need to attend on a specific day if they are studying a subject in that particular timetabled option block.

During the week beginning 6 July students will engage in the same programme as detailed above.

During the week beginning 13 July – the last week of our academic year – students will follow the same programme.

It is fully appreciated that there may be some anxiety about expanding social contacts by coming into school but with careful observance of the measures we are putting in place, we believe that there should be some helpful reassurance. I also mentioned in my last weekly Bulletin home that in our 'Beechwood News' programme there is sharing of some of the steps that have been taken to address safety and social distancing in school. Please look at this as it will give you some insight and hopefully reassurance as to how seriously we are taking this and how much we want to be able to work face-to-face with our young people again. I fully respect families' decisions about participation but would urge you to get in contact if you have any questions/concerns.

We will be in contact next week asking students to register for this provision. Only those students who register will be permitted to attend. We need to tightly control who is on our school site and in our school building. School is closed for all, other than those who are authorised to be on site and who are therefore knowledgeable about, and have agreed to adherence to, our social distancing and hygiene conduct measures.

I sincerely hope that this communication provides helpful clarity about the next steps and about what we wish to achieve together with our young people and their families. As already stated, we are very much looking forward to working with our Year 12 young men and women. Please be in contact if I can be of any further assistance at this time.

Very best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathleen Higgins". The signature is written in a cursive style and is centered within a light grey rectangular background.

**Kathleen Higgins**  
**Executive Headteacher**