Birchwood High School

your dreams, your future, our challenge

12 May 2020

Dear Parent / Carer of Year 7-10 and Year 12 students

I am writing to outline our response to the DfE guidance on opening schools from 1 June announced yesterday. We are not expecting Year 7-9 students to return to school until September and we will be exercising extreme caution with regards to getting Year 10 and 12 students back into school, remembering that the health and safety of students and staff must be uppermost in our thinking.

We will continue to set online work after half term for all students and will look for sensible solutions in terms of allowing Year 10 and 12 students to come back into school. This might include 1:1 meetings, small workshops and some optional lecture style lessons in the larger spaces of the school, but the concept of having even 15 children in a classroom is fraught with difficulties, let alone corridor and communal space use. Based on current information, our initial thoughts are that if you would rather keep your child at home learning remotely for the duration of the Summer Term, this is perfectly acceptable, but there will be increased opportunities for them to come into school if preferred.

We will continue to accommodate key worker and vulnerable students in school and there is guidance on this on the school website.

I thought you should be aware of the approach we are taking so you do not become concerned about your child potentially returning to school full time on 1 June.

I will write to you again when we have more clarity on the national situation and how this might impact on our plans at Birchwood.

Yours sincerely

Chris Ingate

Dr Chris Ingate
Principal

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