

Ref: Year10ReturningToSchool/TMS/hll

June 2020

Dear Parent / Carer,

### **Important Information regarding wider school opening**

You will be aware from recent Government announcements that secondary schools are being asked to prepare for a phased return for those students in Year 10 taking exams next year. Schools are being asked to commence some 'face to face contact' from the week beginning 15<sup>th</sup> June.

As you will appreciate, our priority is to ensure the school can open to students and staff safely. Mr Critchley has already circulated a letter to reassure you that we are following strict guidance on this matter to ensure health and safety is not compromised. We fully appreciate this is an anxious time for students and their families and we thank you for your patience and understanding whilst we coordinate this provision. We are busy finalising the plans for the return of Year 10 to school and are thankful for your feedback through the completion of the recent parental questionnaire. We are currently using this information, to ensure that we can safely facilitate the return of the year group in order to support them further in their transition into Year 11.

### **Face to Face Support and Live Learning**

Currently, we are preparing a phased re-opening that will allow for small groups (bubbles) of students with parental permission, on site at allocated time, twice per week. For those students, where parents' preference is for their child not to access school, online learning will be provided. **There will be an expectation that they complete the remote learning at home under the direction of the teacher.** During this next phase, this learning will take the form of 'live learning' through the use of Microsoft Teams. Whilst we are still working towards this, we wanted to share with you the planned phases we are currently preparing for. Our current plans are subject to change depending on circumstances and confirmation by the Board of the Wade Deacon Trust.

**Phase 1:** Review & Consultation with Students & Parents / Carers.

**Phase 2:** Re-engagement: Student Academic Review Meetings on site to review engagement in remote learning to date and to enable familiarisation of the new expectations as part of the school re-opening to year 10

**Phase 3:** On-site provision provided (two days per week) where live teaching / webinars can be accessed in school or at home through Microsoft Teams. All students will be expected to benefit from this provision and will receive training on how to use 'teams' during the re-engagement phase.

At this time, we are unable to confirm the dates for Phases 2 and 3 however, we will communicate with you well in advance as we move from one phase to another; this information will be shared with you in stages. We fully understand that you will have many questions around what the provision on site will look like; unfortunately, we are not in a position to share this at the moment as there is a great deal of planning that needs to take place to get to that point. Please be reassured that we will give you full details about what this will look like so that you are able to make an informed decision that is right for you and your family.

## Phase 1: Academic Review

In preparation for Phase 1, we are asking all Year 10 students to complete an Academic Review with their Parents / Carers. As students have been away from school for a long period of time, it is important we gather this information to review the amount of work that students have completed. It is also important that this is completed as we will be guided by what our students and their families tell us. Once these have been completed, we will be arranging for a member of staff to meet with your child in school to discuss the review, any concerns and prepare your child for the use of 'teams'. Below is the link to enable the completion of this review. This can also be found on the school website and will be communicated on Social Media

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=kGSC6rbgAk2BMLvfMAKGDHqviS-HszpDjiWdRMYvHtVUQIpNQ09RMkFNUziOTEhUMjJJOE81SzNPSy4u>

Please can we ask that the Review is completed and submitted no later than **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June**. A member of staff will then contact you week beginning **15<sup>th</sup> June** and communicate when your child's academic review meeting will take place week beginning **22<sup>nd</sup> June**. Please be assured that these meeting will follow the strict social distancing guidelines and all the health and safety advice communicated in Mr Critchley's last letter. If you have any issues completing the form, please email: [pastoral@thegrangeacademy.co.uk](mailto:pastoral@thegrangeacademy.co.uk) so that we can support you with this process.

## Work Experience

As you will be aware, Year 10 should have been completing their Work Experience this half term and we are disappointed that this will not take place. As a result, we have been able to find an excellent on-line work experience package called 'My Week of Work' which has been developed in conjunction with The Oak National Academy and Learn Live. Therefore, we have made the decision that there will be no work set by class teachers for Year 10 next week to enable them to access these resources. Mrs Bibby will share an explanatory power point through Show My Homework on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June and the links to the resources are:

<https://www.thenational.academy>

<https://learnliveuk.com>

As you can appreciate, the coordination of any form of re-opening under the current circumstances is a difficult task; we fully appreciate your patience, understanding and support at this time. As soon as we can give you an update on the plans in place, we will continue to communicate these with you.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs J Thomson  
Associate Principal