



20th July 2020

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

At the end of this most unusual of school years there is a great deal to share this week.

As always, thanks for all the support we receive. We are hugely appreciative of the large numbers of positive emails we get. We understand how tough these last 14 weeks have been for our students, and for many parents and staff. We sincerely hope that we can all enjoy a break over the next few weeks and look forward to welcoming all our students back to something approaching a more normal school year in September.

Taking things more or less chronologically:

Year 10 Sessions

These sessions finished on Friday after 5 weeks of lessons in support of their remote learning. The students have attended in good numbers and have behaved, engaged and worked extremely well throughout. They have certainly expressed to me how much they have benefited from the sessions and from being in school generally.

Remote Learning

This also finished on Friday. I know that some parents and students have struggled in a number of ways while others have performed extremely well. The proportion of students completing their remote-learning assignments is amongst the highest I am aware of nationally, and staff have been diligent in setting varied and engaging work. I hope students (and perhaps some parents!) benefited from the increased number of video lessons as lockdown progressed, and I trust students are acting on the feedback that our staff have been working so hard to provide.

Key Worker Group

This provision will cease at the end of term in line with government expectations. I believe we have laid on a rich programme of work and other engaging activities, so hope that these have been well received. I think the students concerned have coped well with the strange and changing situation, and I would like to thank them and their parents for working with us to mitigate the effects of these difficult circumstances.

Summer holiday Work

Students will not be set any formal remote learning over the summer unless they have missed any of the set tasks (which they are still expected to complete). However, we are keen to provide our students with a range of optional but enriching activities that they could choose to do over the summer. We will be refreshing and updating the "Keep on Learning in . . ." web pages that already exist for most subjects. There are also some bigger summer challenges that are being run by various national organisations. Details of all the activities can be found by following this [link](#).

Transition Work

Year 10s going into Year 11 in September have been told to expect some guidance or revision activities in the coming days to ensure they are ready for Year 11 in September (Please also see the section on **Year 11 Assessments** later in this letter.) These will be issued through the Show My Homework platform.

Satchel/Show My Homework

Please be aware that at some point SMH will be updated to reflect the timetable that will run for the next academic year. Specific tasks will still be accessible, but student work may well be archived early in August. This archived work will still be retrievable - but it can be quite difficult to do, so we suggest that students download anything they want to keep readily to hand before the end of July - and that they do not use SMH as a submission tool for any summer holiday work, as this may get lost. Google Classroom makes it much easier to access old tasks submitted, so we strongly recommend that students make use of this where it is available.

Results Day and Leavers Celebrations

Thursday 20th August is GCSE Results Day! Planning for this day is ongoing, but please assume it will not be a 'normal' results day. Currently we are planning that students will have a designated appointment slot when they can collect their results. Any discussions about the results achieved will need to happen over email or by a subsequent appointment. There is a dedicated area of our school website where information about the Results Day can be accessed.

We are very much expecting to hold the postponed prom and our normal Certificate Presentation Evening as soon as it becomes safe to do so.

Year 11 Assessments

In September we will be running some assessments for the (by then) Year 11 students. These will be carried out in classes as part of the students' normal lessons. The reasons for these assessments are fourfold:

- to ensure we know where the gaps are in all content covered so far (before and during lockdown)
- to give students the knowledge of what they can and cannot do, and the ability to address these issues
- to encourage students to review their skills and knowledge over the summer
- to provide some information about student progress in the event of a further shutdown - although we are of course very much hoping this will not be necessary.

September

We are very excited by, and continue to plan for, the full reopening of Langtree School in September. While we are aware there might be further changes to be made, owing to the constantly evolving situation, we will be adopting a number of measures such as:

- Longer lessons in order to deepen learning, and to significantly reduce the number of lesson changeovers required (to minimise risk of cross-infection and the need to clean between lessons).
- The start, breaks, lunches and end-of-day timings will be staggered to reduce the number of students moving around the school at any one time. Each school bus route will operate two separate services and students will catch the bus according to their year group*
 - Years 7, 9 and 11 will be in Wave one and will be arriving at, or just slightly before, normal time
 - Years 8 and 10 will be in Wave 2 and arriving (and leaving school) about 30 minutes later than normal time.
- A strict one-way system will be introduced to reduce the number of students in the corridors
- Handwashing protocols and other hygiene measures will naturally be strictly adhered to

*More information about bus times will be provided, once confirmed by OCC. OCC are also in consultation with the companies that run the public services serving the school.

This is a link to the [recent communication from the School Transport Department at OCC](#) which we have been asked to send to all parents and carers.

Expectations

Our expectations of all our students, their families and our staff in September will be based on the government guidance at the time - and more details will be sent as the new term approaches. However, the basic expectations we will have of students, families and the school are likely to be similar to the expectations we had of our Year 10 students when they returned - [here is a link to those expectations](#).

Ms Burman, our Deputy Headteacher, has also written a document to help prepare the school community for their first day back in September. Please do read this and share the contents with your child: [Preparing for the first day back](#)

In the interests of safety and well-being, we have created two addendums to policies in order to respond to Covid - 19. The relevant details are here:

[Behaviour Policy addendum](#)

[Safeguarding Addendum](#)

Catering

Aspens, our school catering provider, has asked me to share [this letter](#) to reassure all parents and carers about their ability to provide a safe service when the school reopens.

Finally, as we come to the end of this extraordinary year, I want to say thank you again to all parents and carers for all the support you have given the school and your children, especially over the past few months - and to say a big 'very well done' to the students for their determination, resilience, perseverance and endeavour. I am very much looking forward to seeing everyone again in September, and hearing about and celebrating all our students' achievements during lockdown and over the summer.

But for now, we wish everyone a good summer break.

Warmest Regards

Simon Bamford