

# Wolstanton High School

*Empowering Learners for Life*

**Headteacher: Mr M R Boughey** (NPQH, MA, PGCE, BSc)

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May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I have sent this letter out to our whole school community, so that all parents and carers are aware of the information.

From the week commencing 1st June at the earliest, secondary schools have been asked to welcome back students in Year 10 in addition to the children of key workers and in vulnerable groups. The government has stated that they are keen to get children back to school as this is where children learn best and because it is essential for children's well-being to have social interactions with their peers, carers, and teachers. Secondary schools specifically have been asked to begin some face to face support with Year 10 students, although we do not expect these pupils to return on a full-time basis at this stage. Since this announcement, school leaders have been working to ensure all protective measures are put in place, so our children and staff are protected and safe. We have also been considering about what the feasibility of opening at all is.

All of the information we have provided in this letter is in line with the Government guidance, which you can find by [clicking here](#).

## **Years 7, 8, 9 and 11**

The information given in this letter is to inform you what measures the school are putting in place. At the moment, I do not have any dates or guidance on when these year groups could be returning to school but thought it important you received all the information.

Work will continue to be set for students in these year groups, in line with the sessions outlined in my previous learning from home update. In addition, all the ongoing safe and well checks will continue for all students.

## **Year 10 and Key Worker Children**

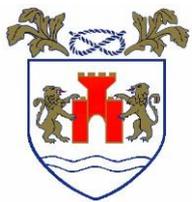
Firstly, we cannot definitely say that Year 10 will return on the 1st June if at all, but we are planning as if this is the case. This is a very complex process and hence it is likely that our provision may build as the weeks go on.

Following the initial announcement from the DFE on 11<sup>th</sup> May, we are expecting updated guidance for the Secondary sector from the Government on 28<sup>th</sup> May. As a school, our main priority is safety of our students and staff, and hence following this guidance we will again seek to amend any potential offer to parents.

The Government has stated that it is parental choice as to whether you send your child into school and are removing the penalties for non-attendance for the time being.

The situation in school would be very different to what the students are used to, and we felt it important to share with you a picture of what this may look like. Please see the notes in the tables below to give you an idea of the measures that we are looking to put in place. We are still working through these measures, below is not the exhaustive list, but wanted to give you a view as soon as we could.





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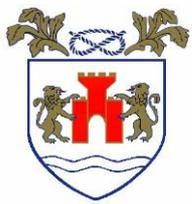
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Sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A normal school day will not be in place.</li><li>• Students will not attend every day.</li><li>• No lunch facility will be provided; hence provision will end before lunch time.</li><li>• X3 sessions would be running for each student attending for the morning. X2 sessions will provide specialist support for their learning that they have been set for home learning. The third session will focus on supporting students from a PSHE point of view.</li></ul>
Bubbles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Students and staff will be in 'Bubbles'. This means there will be groups of no more than 10 children in each classroom (bubble) with 1 or 2 members of staff.</li><li>• Each bubble will remain together throughout the day and NOT mix with any other bubble.</li><li>• Where possible, social distancing will be adhered to and regularly encouraged.</li><li>• When in a classroom, students will sit at their own desks with their own space.</li><li>• Key worker/vulnerable children receiving ongoing schooling, will be in separate 'bubbles'.</li><li>• Students will use the same classroom when they are in. The amount of movement will be limited, with students often remaining in the same classroom.</li></ul>
Protective Hygiene and Safety Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The science tells us that soap and warm water washes away any signs of the virus on our hands. Students will regularly (on entry into school and during designated breaks) wash their hands and be supervised by staff when doing so. Hand sanitiser will be available in each individual classroom bubble.</li><li>• Cleaning will happen regularly across the school day and also at the end of each day. We will increase our cleaner resource in school from 1st June.</li><li>• Each student will need to bring their own 'tools' for working, e.g. pencil, pen, ruler, rubber etc (students WILL NOT be sharing resources that they use to work). Parents will need to ensure that their child is properly equipped to enable them to work. The school could support with this for those that need it and can be discussed at an appropriate time.</li><li>• Any outdoor resources will be cleaned after each usage.</li><li>• No food/snacks/drinks will be provided by school or be available to purchase– these are to be provided by parents (note that vouchers for free school meals will continue). Children will not be able to share food/drink they bring with them.</li><li>• School bags will not be required in school.</li><li>• Students are not required to wear school uniform to allow regular washing of own clothes.</li><li>• There will be a strict NO JEWELLERY policy (including watches) for students.</li><li>• We will ask all parents to ensure they keep a close eye on the temperature of their child before they come into school.</li><li>• If a student displays any symptoms of COVID 19, the student will sit with a staff member in an isolation room (First Aid Room) and parents will be called, and arrangements agreed for the student to immediately return home.</li><li>• If a staff member feels they are displaying symptoms, then they are to go home immediately and organise for a test to be taken.</li><li>• <b>THE EXPECTATIONS FOR STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOUR AND FOLLOWING OF INSTRUCTIONS WILL BE EXTREMELY HIGH. THIS IS FOR THE SAFETY OF ALL STUDENTS AND STAFF. ANY STUDENT THAT CANNOT MEET THESE EXPECTATIONS WILL BE SENT HOME AND NOT ALLOWED TO RETURN.</b></li></ul>



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Arrival and  
departure  
arrangements

- We will stagger the start and finish time for groups. All groups will depart by lunch time.
- We will have very clearly defined instructions for arrival and departure. This is detail we are still working through and will communicate in due course.

## What next:

We are currently analysing the initial survey that was sent to Year 10 parents about whether you would consider sending your child into school if we re-opened. If you do not respond to this **by midday on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May** I will assume that you do not want us to consider your child for a place. Once we have this student data (and staff availability numbers) I will then finalise a potential plan. When this plan is in place, I will communicate it with you. I also await further updates and guidance from the Government, which may change our initial ideas around school reopening.

Thank you for your continued support and patience during this time. As I have said all along, the safety and wellbeing of all our children, families and staff is always at the forefront of my thinking. To be crystal clear, I will not rush to re-open the school until I am completely satisfied that myself and my team have done everything needed to ensure the safety of all. I will keep you updated on any changes to the plan, especially as we wait for confirmation on whether the 1st June increased opening will happen.

Yours sincerely

Mr Mark Boughey  
**Headteacher**