



Fulford School

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5th June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you and your family and friends are well.

We have continued to prepare for the further opening of the school for face to face support of year 10 and 12 pupils from the 15th June. I will write separate letters to parents and careers of pupils in these year groups. There are risk assessments and protocols on the school website to explain how we are addressing the risk factors involved in a return to school.

It is clear from the preparation of the school site, in line with the maintenance of 2m social distancing at all times, that there are severe restrictions on the number of pupils that can be accommodated in school at any one time. As you will see from the risk assessment and protocols, safety of pupils and staff is and will remain our paramount consideration.

As we move forward, we are investigating several different scenarios.

- It may well be that any social distancing restrictions are removed prior to September and the school fully reopens.
- The country continues to move out of lock down and social distancing continues to be in place.
- There is a resurgence in the R number and the country or certain geographical areas return to full lock down.

Whilst we would all hope that the school fully reopens to all in September it is more likely that we will be starting September with a form of blended learning. This would mean most learning would continue to be done remotely at home with different year groups spending limited periods in school.

With social distancing of 2m we can accommodate an average of 9 pupils in a standard classroom. If this were to reduce, we would obviously be able to accommodate more pupils in classes. To meet the requirements of our risk assessment and ensure hygiene standards around the site it is difficult to see the school being able to accommodate more than one year group at a time. We will have a better insight into this once some pupils have returned on the 15th June

Of course, the school has remained open since the beginning of lockdown. We have provided full time education for children of key workers and children identified by the government of having the need of a school place. This provision has continued over the school holidays. As well as staff teaching these children, they have provided a home learning program for all children. We have listened, learned, and adapted our approach. We continue to do this. We understand that each family's experience and circumstances are different. Some families want their children to have more work and some less. Some children have been motivated by the work and others have struggled to engage. We continue to work with families to address concerns and support their children.

Unfortunately, we are not able to replicate the provision that pupils would have if they were physically at school.

As a school we have a resource level that is consistent with normal teaching practice. Schools are complex social organisations set within their own context. They function differently to businesses or indeed voluntary groups. I do understand the frustrations that some of you feel. We are not complacent and of course we understand the importance of your child's education. We work across a local, regional, and national level sharing good practice and planning for provision and reopening. I meet on a regular basis with YSAB (York Schools and Academies Board) which represents all state school in York. Whilst each school has its own context, we work in close partnership to ensure a consistency of provision across the city.

You will have received a message from Mr. Harris (Deputy Head Teacher) explaining how we are increasing contact between your child and their tutor. Can you please ensure that your child checks their email account and replies to their tutor.

There have been concern from some parents that feedback has not been given in line with expectations. In English, maths and science written feedback should be given at least once every 2 weeks. In all other subjects it should be once every 3 weeks. Mr. Rosie will post a video next week to remind pupils how they access this feedback. If following this there are any reason feedback cannot be seen or uploading of tasks is not being asked for, in the first instance, please contact your child's teacher.

Yours sincerely



Steve Lewis
Head Teacher



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The South York Multi-Academy Trust.

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