

5th June 2020

The
COUNTY
HIGH SCHOOL
Leftwich



Dear Parent / Carer

As you know the school has been planning with great care for a phased increase in student numbers, in order that some students receive some face-to-face time with their teachers and we can continue to make provision for those students who may need additional support. This planning and preparation have intensified during the last two weeks. During this week, for example, all colleagues, who have been able to attend the school, have received a full induction into our new ways of working, which are based on our robust risk assessments, designed to ensure that any risks can be appropriately mitigated and managed. The situation remains dynamic and plans may have to be adjusted. However, it remains our dearest wish to begin to rebuild our school community in a safe, measured and thoughtful way, whilst adhering to guidelines from Public Health England and the Department for Education.

I reiterate that we will not act alone. We are continuing to listen, take advice and pay close attention to all the information available to us.

Our New Ways of Working

Our risk assessments, which have been created in conjunction with the Sir John Brunner Foundation and following all the guidelines from the Department for Education, Public Health England and various unions and associations, have been used to generate what we are describing as our new ways of working. These have been developed and have evolved utilising the Department for Education's five key measures, designed to keep us as safe as possible. These are a hierarchy of controls, with number one being the most important method for keeping us all as safe as possible. Should a student or a member of their household be unwell with any of the symptoms of Covid-19, they should follow all the advice and stay at home.

1. **Minimise contact with those who are unwell**
Anyone (colleagues or students) or a member of their household showing symptoms must get a test, or having tested positive, must follow applicable isolation guidance.
2. **Enhance hand hygiene**
Regular and more often than usual handwashing
3. **Good respiratory hygiene**
Catch it, bin it, kill it
4. **Increase cleaning procedures**
Increased focus on surfaces that are regularly touched
Standard school uniform, however no ties. Uniform should be washed at the end of every school day.
5. **Minimise contact and mixing with others**
Very small group sizes as consistent as possible
Keep 2 metres apart wherever possible



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Principal Mr M Snelson BSc (Hons), PGCE, MSc

Year 10 Face-to-Face Support

Following the 5 key measures summarised above and the subsequent risk assessments, it is now our ambition that every Year 10 student, who is able to attend the school, has at least one session with a subject specialist for each of their subjects, before the end of the Summer term.

Students will receive a detailed induction during their first session in school, explaining what is expected of them and how they must follow our new ways of working to ensure that they and everyone else in school can stay as safe as possible. The beginning of the first sessions will also be used to support students' well-being by discussing their varied experiences over the previous 12 weeks.

The sessions will last for two hours per subject. Student membership of a group will be as consistent as possible, whilst ensuring students meet with a subject specialist, between the 15th June and the end of term. There will be no more than 20% of Year 10 in school at any one time. The groups will be of no more than 6 students and the rooms used have been adapted to facilitate and promote social distancing. There are sanitation stations throughout the school and in every classroom used.

The curriculum will be the same as the Home Learning Provision, however, those who attend will receive expert tuition and support from our talented subject specialist teachers. Parents/Carers will receive students' timetables for the two-week period beginning 15th June. The following three-week timetable will be issued before the week beginning 29th June. Students will be invited to attend school for one day a week, from the 15th June until the end of term. Students should only attend on the days indicated. The structure of the day is shown below:

- Subject 1 – 10:00am-12:00pm (students to arrive via the Student Entrance – next to the Canteen and proceed straight to the classroom indicated on their timetable. Students to follow the new one-way system indicated by clear signage to get to the classroom)
- Lunch – 12:00pm-12:30pm (students to be supervised. Students to be self-sufficient and to bring their own lunch and drink to last the whole day, water dispensers are turned off and the Canteen will be closed, initially)
- Subject 2 – 12:30pm-14:30pm (for the first two-week timetable, students to stay in the same group of no more than 6 and will receive expert tuition by a subject specialist in a different subject to session 1)

I hope that Year 10 students, who are able to, embrace this opportunity to reconnect with subject specialist teachers, identify areas to work on further at home, during the rest of this term and during the summer and give themselves the best chance possible to be successful in next Summer's examinations.

Priority Students Provision

The students attending the Priority Students Provision, those children of critical workers and those considered as vulnerable, are now following a more structured day, where the home learning provision is supplemented. Students are required to wear school uniform (without a tie). Please note that we are still unable to provide lunch in school, therefore, those students with a confirmed place for the Priority Students Provision should be self-sufficient and bring a packed lunch and drinks to last the whole day. Like the Year 10 face-to-face provision, students will be in groups of no more than 6 students and must follow all our new ways of working, which they will be fully inducted into.

If you feel your child is eligible for a place and you would like them to attend, please email admin@leftwichhigh.com .

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

For the Year 10 students and the Priority Students, the environment will feel a little different at first but what students will quickly experience is the enthusiasm and warmth of their teachers and support staff and we sincerely hope that this will build confidence and certainty about taking steps towards a more familiar normality. I understand that some parents/carers and students may feel anxious about the return to school and I hope the information provided in this letter provides reassurance and confidence that we have in place everything possible to ensure the school is as safe as possible.

Home Learning Provision – phone calls from Form Tutors

You will have received the Home Learning Overviews for your child's year group, which were emailed on Monday – they are also available on our Coronavirus Support page on our website. This will continue to be the predominant mode of education for all of our students and I hope that they continue to engage with it.

We are continuing to develop our offer and you will see increased 'instruction' from our teachers over the coming weeks. This will be in the form of recorded videos to help students find the work more achievable yet still challenging. We are also continuing ways to provide feedback and to measure student progress.

Starting week beginning 8th June, Form Tutors will be phoning the families of each student in their tutor group to firstly, say hello and check that they are as happy as possible and secondly, to check if they require any additional support to access the Home Learning. I'm sure you and your child will welcome a phone call from someone who plays such an important role in their pastoral and academic provision. Please be aware that, where possible, this call will come via the school number but in some cases will be made from a number which will need to be withheld. Following this, Form Tutors will begin to create and forward Tutor Time sessions of which I hope students enjoy, find interesting and thought-provoking.

I look forward to seeing our students again in the very near future.

Please continue to look after yourselves and each other,

Mr Snelson



Principal