

10th June 2020

The
COUNTY
HIGH SCHOOL
Leftwich



Dear Parent / Carer

As stated in my letter published on Friday 5th June, the school has been planning with great care for a phased increase in student numbers, in order that Year 10 students receive face-to-face time with their teachers and we can continue to make provision for those students who need additional support. We are continuing to adhere to guidelines from Public Health England and the Department for Education, not acting alone and continuing to listen, take advice and pay close attention to all the information available to us. The plans further explained in this letter are all correct at time of writing and I will update parents/carers should we need to change any of them.

We are able to continue with the plan for **Year 10 students to attend school for one day a week, in very small groups (no more than 6 in a classroom), starting on Monday 15th June.** Year 10 parents/carers should have received their child's timetable for the two weeks commencing 15th June and 22nd June. These timetables have been emailed via InTouch and will be received via the post in the coming days. If you have not received one for your Year 10 child, please contact school as a matter of urgency via 01606 333300 or admin@leftwichhigh.com . *Students are required to wear their uniform (without a tie) and should bring their own lunch and enough drink to last the day.*

Along with this letter, are links to three films:

1. <https://youtu.be/9E1F9k4SV60>

A heartfelt thank you to all my colleagues at The County High School, Leftwich for the vast amount of careful thought, work and effort spent during the last 11 weeks. This thank you is to all my teachers and learning, pastoral, curriculum and admin support staff as well as to the Site Team and cleaners who have kept the building safe, secure and operational and transformed it to fit with our new ways of working as described below. The thank you is from my Senior Leadership Team, our Local Governing Body and the Trustees at the Sir John Brunner Foundation. The film also contains a small number of the numerous thank yous parents/carers have forwarded to me.

2. <https://youtu.be/-aGAowy-f0k>

Mr Jeffrey has filmed a tour of the school, highlighting some of our new ways of working, which **students must follow** on their return to school. The film shows that school is very different and will continue to be in the short to medium term, however, students can also expect a warm welcome from their teachers, who are very much looking forward to meeting them once more. Students will quickly experience 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



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

and students may feel anxious about the return to school and I hope the information provided in this letter and the film provides reassurance and confidence that we have in place everything possible to ensure the school is as safe as possible.

3. <https://youtu.be/oE-LrOdQ1MM>

A short film from myself.

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

Year 10 Face-to-Face Support

Following the 5 key measures summarised above and the subsequent risk assessments, it is 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 have received students' timetables for the two-week period beginning 15th June. Further timetables will be issued during the week commencing 22nd 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:

- 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 following a structured day, where the home learning provision is supplemented. Students are required to wear school uniform (without a tie). Students must 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>

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 last week – 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 be seeing increased 'instruction' from our teachers. This is in the form of recorded videos to help students find the work more achievable yet still challenging. We are also providing feedback and using a variety of methods to measure student progress.

Form Tutors have begun 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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matt Snelson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underlining the name.

Principal