

# COCKBURN SCHOOL

Specialist status in the Performing Arts



**Executive Headteacher** Mr D Gurney BA (Hons) / NPQH / NLE  
**Head of School** Mr R Dixon BSc (Hons) / NPQH

5th June 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Year 10 reopening planning

As you will be aware, the government has now set out expectations for schools to reopen to Year 10 students from June 15<sup>th</sup>. We are now in the process of planning for this and would like to thank parents and carers who completed the recent survey stating your intention to send your child or not.

The Government have set out guidance for parents and carers that you can access via this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

There are a number of key points that we believe are very important to share with you:

- We plan to receive Year 10 students from 15<sup>th</sup> June offering some face-to-face support. Other year groups must remain at home and continue with home learning until further notice. Please be aware that this is still 'an anticipated date' as set out in the government guidance, however, we are hopeful that we will be able to welcome Year 10 students back at this point.
- The government guidance sets out very clearly that only a quarter of the Year 10 cohort (approximately 60 students) are permitted on site at any one time and the use of rota systems to enable this. As a consequence of this, we are carefully considering a model of provision for small groups of Year 10 students who are not eligible for a key worker place. We will write to you during the course of next week, once we have carefully considered the information provided alongside the indication of Year 10 students to expect, to confirm the delivery model that will be operating in the school in line with government guidance.
- The government has confirmed that offering some face-to-face support is to supplement home learning of Year 10 students and home learning should remain the predominant mode of education during this term.
- The government has also confirmed that the in-school offer for Year 10 students will run alongside the full-time provision for children of keyworkers and vulnerable students in all year groups (including Year 10).
- We are continuing to offer provision for students who meet the government's keyworker eligibility criteria.

If your circumstances change and you are then eligible for your child to access the keyworker provision (full or part time), please see the website for details of how to do this. For your reference, the details of key worker eligibility status are contained via this link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision#vulnerable-children-and-young-people>

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If you originally indicated through the parent/carer survey that you did not want your child to take advantage of the face-to-face Year 10 offer, but you have subsequently changed your mind or you didn't complete the survey, please contact the school by 01132719962 or via email: [info@cockburnschool.org](mailto:info@cockburnschool.org).

It remains of the utmost importance to us that we continue to do everything we can as far as possible to reduce the risk of infection transmission in school. We have been planning for students' return to the school for a significant period of time and have implemented a hierarchy of controls that create a safer environment, where the risk of infection transmission is substantially reduced. This includes:

- minimising contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that students or members of staff who have coronavirus symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school
- cleaning hands more often than usual - students and staff will be encouraged to regularly wash their hands thoroughly for 20 seconds with running water and soap and dry them thoroughly, or use alcohol hand rub or sanitiser ensuring that all parts of the hands are covered
- ensuring good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach
- cleaning frequently touched surfaces often, using standard products such as detergents and bleach
- minimising contact and mixing, as far as possible, by keeping students in small groups for face-to-face support and as consistent as possible whilst in the school (e.g. for arrival, lunchtime, breaks and departure) and altering the school environment (e.g. changing classroom layouts so desks are further apart with seating plans, allocating specific classrooms to groups, no resource sharing)
- ensuring students follow social distancing instructions as part of the behaviour policy.

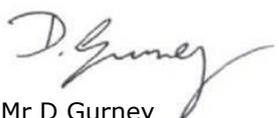
We would like to remind all parents/carers that students should not be on the school grounds unless for agreed contact time or attendance as detailed above. Furthermore, we would like to re-emphasise the importance of reducing the risks of transmission outside of the school, this includes refraining from socialising with each other in large groups and ensuring social distancing practices are observed when meeting other people.

We are looking forward to being able to open the school more widely to Year 10 from 15<sup>th</sup> June and will send you further details of this plan next week. Government guidance continues to evolve and we will need to continue to take account of this and update you with information as soon as we are able to.

As expected we are sorry to announce that due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the uncertainty over the future of the lockdown, Year 10 Work Experience has had to be cancelled this year. Thank you to everyone who was proactive in their efforts to gain a work experience placement. Many companies have already started working on ways of giving some online work experience to students and we will continue to share these as they come to us.

As always, please do get in touch with us if there is anything we can do to assist you at this difficult time.

Yours sincerely,



Mr D Gurney  
Executive Headteacher



Mr R Dixon  
Head of School