



Wales HIGH SCHOOL

HEADTEACHER: MR. G. DI'IASIO

1 June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Partial re-opening to Y10 & Y12

I hope you and your family are well and keeping safe and most importantly found time to relax as a family over the bank holiday break.

During this period of lock-down, we have been unbelievably impressed with the numbers of students that have engaged fully in all remote learning. We are in no doubt that this is also a reflection of the commitment and support you as parents and carers have provided. For many students it has helped to increase independence and provided a new way of learning out of the classroom; a skill they will certainly need as they make their way through their life. The family bulletin [here](#) will continue to offer support as the majority of students continue to study remotely.

We write to update you on our response to the government's guidance to secondary schools to prepare for a phased return of Y10 and Y12 students from the 15th June. As you will be aware we are continuing to receive information from the Department for Education regarding a proposed wider opening of the school to Y10 and Y12 students. At this point I want to make it absolutely clear that this will be done in a controlled way and at no point will there be all Y10 and Y12 students on site this summer.

We are continuing to plan for a phased return of students and staff, but given the latest guidance around minimising contact between young people, staff, and avoiding encouraging large groups to use public transport, we are looking at a system whereby students in Y10 and Y12 have the choice to opt in to a specific time (via an online booking system) for a 1:1 'academic mentoring session'. Students will have a choice to come on to site and have a variety of support including a well-being 'check in', a chance to assess where they are at in terms of their work, view the changes to the site with its social distancing measures as well as take away a plan with targets to concentrate on whilst continuing to work at home. Most importantly this will enable our students to get past the first and most challenging hurdle of being back in school. **This opportunity will be for students alone, as due to health and safety reasons parents are currently not allowed on school site.** There will also be an option to request a remote 'face to face' meeting via Teams, where much of what is described above can still happen. This is also an option if you as parents or carers want to be present at the meeting.

As a school we will of course, continue to provide remote learning opportunities for all year groups; even when the school begins it's partial re-opening. Staff will continue to maintain contact and offer feedback remotely and for the vast majority of students this will remain in place for the rest of the summer term.

We have included below, a link to a family feedback survey that will allow you the opportunity to let us know if you feel your child is in a position to return to school as and when invited. In order for you to do this, we understand that there will be lots of questions that you will need answering and our first

priority will be to reassure you of the safety of your child. Before completing the survey, I advise you to read the 'Reopening Planning Document' [here](#).

Although it is a lengthy document, it is very thorough and we feel will give you reassurance and provide you answers to the many questions you will have. It will then enable you to complete the survey with the full information. The survey also has space for additional questions and comments. Following the deadline for the survey to be completed we will then release a FAQ for all Y10 and Y12 families to see. Please fill in a separate survey if you have more than one child in these years and please be aware that the survey is slightly different between Y10 and Y12 so you will need to make sure you complete the correct survey. The survey here is for Y12. Y10 survey will be sent to Y10 parents separately. **Please complete this survey before Monday 8th June 8.30am.**

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=AUSwLBxsWEODNN7wroTSzSkf14coLYtKgyA7eMuYnVtUQkIPUUtLSjEwTUlzOVhOSUNIVVRQNDhBOS4u>

Our response and plans have always focused on ensuring the health and safety of our students, families and staff. Within the family bulletin you will find messages from all year group pastoral teams. Tutors, Heads of Year and other staff letting you know what they have been up to over the period of lockdown and saying hello to you from their homes. It is lovely that we can get to see some familiar faces. I know I certainly enjoyed seeing them.

Finally, I wanted to thank you for your strength and support throughout what we may describe as the biggest life changing event that many of us have ever experienced.

Take care and stay safe.



Pepe Di'lasio
Headteacher



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