

Monday 18th May 2020  
Possible phased reopening of Norwood School

Dear Yr 10 Parents and Carers,

We all hope that you and your families are all safe and well at this challenging time. Since lockdown we have all faced many challenges and I am incredibly proud and grateful for the work that my colleagues, support staff and in particular our students have demonstrated in maintaining the Norwood School in a virtual environment. I would also like to thank you, the parents and carers for your patience, support and efforts to maintain a semblance of routine at home. We have really missed the students and are all looking forward to the time when we can start to get things back to whatever the new normal will be. As a Senior team we have been working hard with Ms Knight and her pastoral team to prepare for the possible phased return of Year 10.

In order to help us make adequate preparations to plan for a possible phased return for Yr 10 and 12 later this summer term, we would like to know how likely it is that you will send your son/daughter back into school.

To continue to enable SLT to continue to make plans, please respond to the brief questionnaire following [this link](#) as soon as possible - no later than 9am Wednesday 20th May 2020.

Please be advised that Years 10 and 12 will continue their online learning from June 1st, though, as government announcements have suggested, we are hoping to plan for some face to face time with their teachers. We will have a clearer idea of exactly how this will look by the end of this week. Please continue to check your emails - including SPAM for communications.

We hope that you will appreciate that it is clear that school will not return to normal practice this summer term. We do not anticipate staff or students being in school every day.

All KS3 students will continue learning whilst remaining at home at this stage.

Current arrangements for vulnerable and key worker children will continue as they have done since the school closed.

As parents and carers of Yr 10 students, we are aware of the level of concern that any partial return brings for you. We wanted to reassure you that we are thinking carefully about a number of factors that will have high-level implications on the safe reopening of the school for staff and pupils including:

- Health and safety
- Practical facilities arrangements
- Wellbeing of staff and pupils

Our phased return has been designed to adhere to government guidelines around safeguarding all individuals on site. The consideration of risk to health and maintenance of social distancing measures is paramount.

**Extensive preparation include for example:**

- Arrangements for the school day – start and end times
- Travel to and from school
- Safe entry and exit to the school site, including taking temperatures and washing hands on arrival
- Room Capacity/ Class sizes
- Arrangements for use of equipment which might ordinarily be shared eg ICT
- How transitions between classes can be managed using a one way system
- Classroom safety - ensuring social distancing arrangements are facilitated in each classroom
- Breaktime arrangements
- Refreshments and provision of FSM
- Emergency evacuations
- Cleaning arrangements including more regular cleaning of frequently used areas eg toilets

**We are also obviously considering what will be the particular academic or emotional needs of key groups**

- Staff are currently auditing the progress and engagement of students during lockdown so that we can plan for the most appropriate intervention.
- Many adults and children will be anxious and will have suffered bereavements or trauma; we are investigating training and support that will need to be provided.

**We will, of course, be making use of risk assessments in line with Lambeth protocols.**

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Please also note that the government will only make the final decision on whether to press ahead with the reopening of schools when it reviews the latest science on 28th May, and that if the evidence does not support this decision at that time, reopening might be delayed. We will endeavour to maintain communication with you as and when we have any further developments.

Thank you for taking the time to complete the questionnaire. Please follow the links below to the most recent and up to date guidance for school planning a phased reopening.

Kind regards

Mrs Webster

[Opening schools for more children and young people: initial planning framework for schools in England](#)

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): implementing protective measures in education and childcare settings](#)