

Dear Parent/Carer

Following my previous letter on Monday 1st June regarding a phased wider school re-opening to Year 10 students, I would like to discuss more widely specific plans for the return. At this early phase we are proceeding with caution and will review the plans again following the period between 15th-26th June. We have taken a number of protective steps to make the school as low risk as we possibly can for both staff and students including:

- Reducing capacity size of classrooms to incorporate social distancing.
- Reduced capacity in the Dining Hall.
- Social distance marking around the school.
- Posters and communications regarding Covid-19 around key areas.
- Numerous sanitiser stations around the school.
- Increased sink use to enable social distancing while students handwash.

A full risk assessment has been submitted to the Local Authority linked to wider opening. We have been open for the children of key workers and vulnerable students for the last 10 weeks so I purposely say 'wider opening of the school'.

In terms of travel to school, I would ask that students maintain social distancing measures and do not gather in groups as well as avoiding using any public transport. Walking or cycling to school poses far less risk. When students attend for their slot/meetings they do not need to attend wearing a school uniform at this time and I would recommend their normal informal daily clothing.

If students are displaying any symptoms of Covid-19 they should not come into school and if any students were to fall ill while attending we have set up a first aid isolation room where students would be taken. Please see the medical guidelines below and students should not attend if any of these apply to the household.

- children, young people and staff who have been classed as [clinically extremely vulnerable due to pre-existing medical conditions](#) have been advised to shield. We do not expect people in this category to be attending school or college, and they should continue to be supported to learn or work at home as much as possible. Clinically vulnerable (but not clinically extremely vulnerable) people are those considered to be at a higher risk of severe illness from coronavirus. Few if any children will fall into this category, but parents should follow medical advice if their child is in this category. Staff in this category should work from home where possible, and refer to the detail in our protective measures guidance
- a child/young person or a member of staff who lives with someone who is clinically vulnerable (but not clinically extremely vulnerable), including those who are pregnant, can attend their education or childcare setting
- if a child/young person or staff member lives in a household with someone who is extremely clinically vulnerable, as set out in the [guidance on shielding](#), it is advised they only attend an education or childcare setting if stringent social distancing can be adhered

to and, in the case of children, if they are able to understand and follow those instructions. This may not be possible for very young children and older children without the capacity to adhere to the instructions on social distancing. If stringent social distancing cannot be adhered to, we do not expect those individuals to attend. They should be supported to learn or work at home

- staff and children or young people should not attend if they have symptoms or are self-isolating due to symptoms in their household
- protective measures will be put in place for staff and students, as far as is possible, to ensure that the risk of transmission is reduced

Throughout this week the Year 10 team have been contacting Year 10 families via telephone to discuss any medical concerns or underlying health conditions that students may have and also discussing a return. If you have missed these calls and would like your child to return from Monday 15th June for some face-to-face support, please call us at the school on 01270 560514 or email parent/carer@ruskin.cheshire.sch.uk

From Monday 8th until Friday 12th June we will be contacting families that would like students to return for some face-to-face support to assign specific time slots and days to attend.

I realise that this face-to-face time does not make up for full attendance in school but it is a chance for us to support the remote learning that students have been undertaking. This will continue to be the predominant form of education delivery but we feel that some face-to-face contact will really support our students if you wish to send your child to school.

I realise that this change may be causing you some anxiety and concern as we all try to adapt to these new ways of working but rest assured we will do our very best to support you during these uncertain times.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D. Postlethwaite". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D' and a long, sweeping underline.

D Postlethwaite
Headteacher (Acting)