

1st June 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I hope that you and your family are all well and you have had a good half term together. Over the half term break we have seen an update from the Government on the impact of easing measures during this latest stage of lockdown and a further announcement on schools. I am also relieved to see the test and trace procedure now underway as I am sure you are too.

For year 10 parents you will be aware the Government changed the start date for Year 10 face to face support to Monday 15th June with no more than 25% of our Year 10 pupils in at one point. **This is based on the Government continuing to pass the 5 tests it set.** We therefore need to amend our proposal in light of this. Our intention is to offer face to face support for Year 10 from Monday 15th June. **Therefore, if we still meet the 5 tests by Monday 8th June I will write to all Year 10 parents confirming our proposed plan will start W/C Monday 15th June for Year 10.** If they are not met, we will wait until they are and I will give all Year 10 parents one week and a weekend's notice. Please can I advise that this is subject to any further announcement or change from Government and apologise for the frustration this must be causing.

An outline of the plan is shown below. We have been conscious to keep the bands and groups students were in the same so there is minimum disruption to you and your families. It is your choice if you send your son/daughter in and we will respect whatever choice you make. The most important point is that students and staff are as safe as they can be and we will remain committed to ensure we follow the guidance to support all students. Therefore, if your son/daughter has coronavirus symptoms or has someone in their household who does they should not attend school.

Year 10 Face to Face Teaching – From Monday 15th June 2020 providing the 5 tests continue to be met:

We are not changing what group or what band your son/daughter is in. Except students will only be in for one day and not two as previously proposed. The remaining days in the week students should be at home on MS teams completing online learning. Therefore

Monday 15th June – Band A Group 1, 2 & 3

Tuesday 16th June – Band B Group 1, 2 & 3

Wednesday 17th June – Band A Group 4, 5 & 6

Thursday 18th June – Band B Group 4, 5 & 6

Each day starts at 10am and finishes at 2:30pm. Students will receive tuition in Maths, English, Science, RE/Health & Social in groups of no more than 13 pupils. However, for the first week all students first lesson will be focused on building students' confidence & wellbeing, reviewing the rules on social distancing and our procedures. Our inclusion team and trained staff nurse will also be available all week. Therefore RE & Health & Social care tuition will not start till the following week. Our Intention, if this week goes well, is that this timetable will continue until the end of the summer term. **If we start on the 15th June, I will write to Year 10 parents again separately confirming your son/daughter's band and group in my letter posted on the 8th June.**

Uniform – Students attending school do not need to wear school uniform this half term. We have changed our decision on this following updated guidance around health and hygiene and managing the risk of COVID 19. Students should wear appropriate casual clothes that can be washed after each day in school. Please ensure clothes worn to school follow our usual rules for non-uniform days and are appropriate attire for the working environment. Please can I ask that students in Year 10 either arrive by car, bike, or walk. We urge students to avoid using public transport. Our minibus service is still working however all the buses are now full as they have been prioritised for key worker children and to meet social distancing requirements. Arrivals and Departures will be supervised with a system in place. This will be supervised from 9:30-10:05am and from 2:20pm till all Year 10 pupils are safely off site.

Emergency School – Key Worker & Vulnerable Pupils

This continues for the remainder of this term. **The only change is that from today students attending emergency school do not need to wear school uniform.** This is following updated guidance from the government to ensure students can wear clean clothes every day.

Years 7-9

Despite our year 7-9 pupils not being able to return to school before September, we have been really impressed with how well students are engaged on MS Teams and the quality of work being produced. Please note teachers are covering new content so it is vital students continue to remain engaged. Teachers are aware of the importance of structuring the requests for work so that it does not become unworkable and over bearing. If at any point it does, it is not a problem please let us know and we will adjust this. It has been noticed how hard you are working and we really appreciate it and are impressed by the work you are doing.

Awards for Home Learning

Due to the outstanding examples of work being completed by our students we will be posting out awards for this term in the last few weeks from your teachers instead of a reward assembly.

Year 8 & 9 options

From this week all students in years 8 & 9 do not need to attend lessons on MS Teams or complete the work sent by email for the subject they have dropped or if you are in Year 8 going into Year 9 the subjects you will no longer be studying next year. To be clear you should be continuing with the option subjects confirmed in your letter from me before half term.

Mental Health & Wellbeing

If you are struggling at home with the loss of routine, and the amount of work or lack of social interaction with your school peers, please click on the link below for expert advice and guidance to get you through this challenging time. **There are quarantine activities now on the following page to help cope with the additional stress you may be feeling at the moment.**

<https://www.stgcc.co.uk/page/?title=Student+Help+and+Advice&pid=233>

Safeguarding - Pupils

staysafe@stgcc.co.uk

This email address is available **only for pupils** if you are feeling concerned for your safety, wellbeing or anxiety which is affecting your ability to function as you normally would. This will be looked at daily. For parents, the email address will be emailed to all students via their school email accounts.

Tutor Phone Calls

A gentle reminder tutor phone calls will take place this week for all year groups. If you have any questions please get in touch.

Important Dates Cancelled:

Year 7 Parents Evening – Tuesday 23rd June – Miss Provenzano will be emailing Year 7 parents with an online form if they would like to request a phone call with feedback about their son/daughter in that subject before the end of term.

Year 7-10 Presentation Evening – Students who have been nominated for a prize for their performance this year will be informed in writing and invited in to come and collect their trophy.

Year 7 Parents Evening – To be completed remotely! Please sign up..

As you will have read above we cannot hold Year 7 parents evening as we traditionally would have done. We realise that Year 7 parents evening is hugely important considering it is your son/daughter's first year in big school and you want to know how they have done from subject teachers. Our Progress Leader for Year 7, Miss G Provenzano, will be

writing to you with the details shortly. In essence, if you want to request a call from the subject teacher you wish to talk to, select yes against the subject on the link below and you will receive a 5 minute phone call from them before the end of term.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=8mJRt-Dz8kini2H46dDMEefpPtNA-G5Eq8M4e9EBIRxURUtEWDZLOE41WkREM1g1VDY0MkVISzQ2VS4u>

Please can we ask that you only request a subject you have questions or queries about to avoid a logistical breakdown and if we miss you I'm afraid you will need to email the teacher directly as the teacher will have other slots calls to make.

Transition: Year 6-7

In-case you are interested or you have siblings joining us in September, we are not allowed to offer our normal transition day on the 1st July as set out in the Government guidance. Instead, Thursday 3rd September will be a Year 7 only day followed by Year 7 information evening for parents. Please be reassured that we are working on a new transition plan for our new Year 7 students and their families to give them an excellent start at St George. We will give you further information about the arrangements as soon as we have agreed these with primary schools. Year 7 Tutors will be contacting all new Year 7 parents by phone before the end of term. More information, transition packs, a video tour of the site and additional information from key staff will shortly be available on our transition page on the website:

<https://www.stgcc.co.uk/page/?title=Admissions&pid=22>

Finally, please stay safe, follow the guidance by the government, and look after each other. We will continue to keep in touch.

Yours faithfully,



Mr J Habberley
Headteacher