

22 May 2020

Dear Year 10 Parent/Carer

Update regarding reopening planning for Year 10 students only

I hope you and your families are well. I apologise that it has been a while since I have written to you formally, but I trust you are aware of what we continue to do for our students via their Google Classrooms, our website news items, and our social media accounts on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. We are determined to support even more effectively with regard to student online learning, and I will write to you again regarding that, and seek your views, shortly over the half-term holiday.

As you will be aware, the government has asked schools to begin to plan to open for more students from early June, specifically Year 10 students in secondary schools. I am writing to give you some details of our planning.

We continue to maintain our provision that we have offered since the lockdown in March, to the children of critical workers and vulnerable children. These arrangements remain unchanged. We are already in contact with these parents.

My absolute priority moving forward is to ensure that we only open to more students if and when it is safe to do so. As you can imagine, I am working with my colleagues to carry out a robust risk assessment to inform all of my decision-making.

At this point, I would like to make it very clear that my expectation, in line government guidance, is that this reopening will be phased with very small numbers in the academy at any one time. This will be for Year 10 only towards the end of summer term, alongside our existing critical worker and vulnerable children provision. All other year groups will continue with their online learning and will not be in school. We are awaiting more detailed government guidance as I write this letter.

In order to ensure that I have an accurate overview of the number of students who are likely to return to school in June, it would help me if you would let me know if your intention is to send your Year 10 child to school to access the limited provision that will be offered. This information will allow me to plan for safe staffing levels to support the children in the school.

This will not be normal school provision and will be part-time and operate in line with social distancing measures, and in line with the government guidance so far. This provision will allow some face to face contact with students in Year 10 to complement their online learning to help progress their studies further during the summer term.

The link to the survey is here: <https://forms.gle/hS9V2vyuLpojDZhb7>. This link will also be sent to you by text but please note you only need to complete the survey once for each Y10 child. **Please complete this survey by 4.00pm Friday 29 May** if at all possible.

Our Approach to Opening

1. From w/c 1 June we will begin to contact students in Year 10 to discuss arrangements for the face to face support they will receive prior to the summer break.

Outwood Grange Academies Trust, a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales with company number 06995649.

Registered office address: Potovens Lane, Outwood, Wakefield, West Yorkshire WF1 2PF.

VAT number: 158 2720 04. Outwood Grange Academies Trust is an exempt charity.

A list of Directors' names is open to inspection at our registered office.

2. Once these arrangements are made, the face to face contact will be initially to meet with a member of school staff for a short time, such as 1 or 2 hours.
- i. This face to face support will be in very small groups;
 - ii. There will be little opportunity for social mixing;
 - iii. Additional hygiene, cleaning and social distancing measures will apply.
- Further details will be outlined on our website in due course;**
- iv. There will be staggered start and end times;
 - v. This provision will focus on pastoral support, mental health and wellbeing, academic support and planning for any additional time that students may need in school.

3. My ambition is to increase this provision over time, but only if and when it is safe to do so, which will be informed by our risk assessment. Government strategy will also impact on my decision-making through its monitoring of the R rate. However, it is important to note that there will not be a return to full time provision this academic year for Year 10, or any other year group.

Online Learning

The aim of the face to face support is to supplement online learning. Online learning will be the main focus for students' study for the remainder of the academic year. We will continue to seek to strengthen this online provision, supported by our face to face arrangements and interventions, and will write to you in more detail regarding this.

In these challenging times, we have all had to learn and work in very different ways, As ever, I would like to thank you for your continued support encouraging your child's online learning, which I know is not always straightforward. Thank you for continuing with this, as it makes a tremendous difference. I will continue to try to share on social media what our expectations are, and links to support where there are difficulties. Remember help with logging onto Google Classroom can be secured via google@normanby.outwood.com We are all of course looking forward to seeing our Year 10 students back in the building, albeit in a very limited and different way. We will all be working in a different, socially-distanced way and we appreciate your support in reinforcing with your child the importance of social distancing, good respiratory hygiene and hand-washing.

In the weeks ahead, I would ask you to wait for your phone call from the school to confirm your child's arrangements for the face to face support they will receive. If you have any questions or concerns, please do get in touch via the form at the top of the 'Contact Us' section of the website here: www.normanby.outwood.com/contact or by emailing enquires@normanby.outwood.com

Stay safe, and I wish you and your family well over the bank holiday weekend and beyond.

Yours faithfully



Andrew Wappat
Principal