

4th June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you and your families are well.

The Department for Education has now confirmed the arrangements and guidance for secondary schools with regards to the wider opening of schools and that we can do so from 15th June onwards. There are a number of restrictions in place, most notably that we are only allowed to have up to ¼ of the Year 10 and 12 cohort in school at any one time, for Oldfield this will mean a maximum of 80 students from Year 10 and/or 12. The guidance has also made it clear that learning must predominately be home learning for Year 10 and 12 students.

While this means that we have not been able to implement our plans for Year 10 and 12 from this week onwards, we will be able to condense the delivery of sessions into the five week period from 15th June until the end of term. This will still maintain a suitable gap between days that cohorts of students are in school and to allow for teaching areas to be thoroughly cleaned and prepared for use.

In order for us to schedule room use over this period, it is essential for parents to confirm whether their child will be attending these sessions. We need to know which students will be in school each day so that we can allocate rooms appropriately to maintain social distancing, as rooms vary in capacity from 9 to 15 students.

The first of these sessions will be for Year 12 on Monday 15th June and for Year 10 (B side of the year) on Thursday 18th June. The first session for the A side of Year 10 will be on Monday 29th June. Sessions will start at 09:00 or at 10:00 and will last three hours, with breaks at regular intervals. Year 12 students will be able to access a session for each of their A Level subjects and for Year 10 students for English, maths and science. There will be an opportunity for those who cannot or choose not to attend these sessions to access these sessions remotely. The Year 12 sessions for art, textiles and photography will not take place in school but will be run remotely on the allocated day, with individual feedback meetings for each student. The DT Product Design session may also be run remotely in this way.

Given the requirement to minimise the opportunities for the mixing of students and the limited numbers that we are allowed to have in school of each cohort, we will not be able to put in place in–school sessions in the option subjects for Year 10 this term.

These sessions will supplement the home learning curriculum and will not replace this. They will be used to review and consolidate the home learning curriculum and your son or daughter should continue to follow the home learning timetable, amending this as appropriate, depending on when the in-school sessions are being run.

You will receive an email asking you to complete a google form to confirm whether your son or daughter will be attending these sessions. Given that our planning depends on knowing who will be attending in advance it may not be possible to opt in for sessions at a later date. We have been advised to remind parents that public transport should be avoided, as should car sharing, and you should take



account of this in making your decision. If transport to school is an issue your son or daughter will be able to access the session remotely from home.

I will be writing to you again next week to provide more detail on the dates, locations, routines and procedures for the in-school sessions. These will include procedures for arrival and departure from school, break times, social distancing in classrooms and our expectations regarding behaviour before, during and after lessons when on site at this time.

It is possible that guidance from the DfE will change between now and 15th June, if this is the case we may have to amend our plans for wider opening.

We are all looking forward to welcoming back some of our students this term: even if it is only for a limited period of time.

Best wishes and stay safe.

Yours faithfully

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Mr Steven Mackay Headteacher