



Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

### Enhancing learning and easing lockdown

I would like to welcome you all back after what I trust has been a relaxing and healthy half term break. As I write, the sun is shining again on what is a beautiful summer's day. Perhaps like me, you have that strange sense of disconnect between the glorious weather on the one hand and the weight of Covid-19 on the other. However, if there is a disconnect, one way we can connect together again is through Bridgewater High School and our online schooling which starts again this morning.

Easing lockdown requires a finely calibrated response that is neither too quick nor too slow and which is, above all, safe. The Government advice regarding Y10 can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june>

We are working closely with the other primaries in our Trust to make sure that we learn from their experiences over the coming weeks. We will ensure that you have as much information and guidance as possible so that you can make as informed a choice as possible about the easing of lockdown for Y10 students.

Today, the school's Leadership Team began the process of "easing lockdown" as we entered into two days of intensive face to face planning, subject of course to social distancing. The main areas of focus included:

- Ensuring Bridgewater High School is as safe and secure an environment as possible
- Enhancing the online offer for all Year groups through increasingly interactive platforms
- Preparing to welcome back some Year 10 students from the 15<sup>th</sup> June
- Embedding online induction for Y6 students
- Completing the process of GCSE entries

From Wednesday, teachers and support staff will also be attending on a phased basis to be updated on our plans for Y10, whilst ensuring they share and consolidate best practice in terms of online learning. Meanwhile, the Key Workers and Vulnerable provision that has been operating throughout lockdown, moves to the Lower School.

On Wednesday afternoon I will also send you details of YouTube messages that are more tailored to the needs of each Year group as follows:

- Y11 Mr Malam
- Y10 Mr Powell
- Y9 Mr Jones
- Y7&8 Mrs Hatton
- Enrichment Mr Roberts.

I will also give an overview of our ambitions for this term and details of how Upper and Lower School will be running.

Finally, I would like to thank you for the continued support you show the school. This is a far from an ideal learning environment as we all know. However, now it's about making the best of this situation and you have my commitment on behalf of all staff, governors and trustees that we will do all we can to offer you the best educational experience possible. I look forward to speaking to you on Wednesday.

Regards

Tim Long, Principal