



RUTLISH SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Ms L. Howarth

20 May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to explain how Rutlish School will respond to the national request to offer some face-to-face support for Year 10 and Year 12 students from 1st June. In considering our next steps, the Governors and I have weighed the needs to get our students back into school against the need to maintain a healthy safe environment for our students, their parents and our staff. To assist us in that process we have received DfE guidance, some of which is being amended, then reissued. The specific Secondary Guidance has yet to be issued.

The Government have stated that their intention is that secondary schools could re-open to offer some face-to-face support for Year 10 and Year 12 students from 1st June. The Government have said this will be confirmed on Friday 28 May providing the five key tests set by the Government have been met. Given the lack of national clarity at this stage, the Governors and I do not intend to begin any increase of students returning to school. Once we have confirmation of this important Government safety information we will be able to finalise and publish our plans, carry out the risk assessments and other requirements. As one of the four PFI schools in Merton, I am also liaising with the PFI provider and Merton to ensure their risk assessment and actions also meet the school's requirements. I can assure you that the school will not re-open for more students until all health and safety compliance and protective measures are in place. I anticipate this might be from 8th or 15th June for a small number of students. The Government have also stated that we cannot consider opening to other year groups at present as the safety of children and staff must be a priority.

Learning

Teachers have put transition information on Fronter for Year 11 and Year 13 students to help the preparation for their next phase of education.

Since it is unlikely that Y7, Y8 and Y9 will return before September, teachers will continue to put work on Fronter for students to complete.

We are currently in the process of improving ways for all students to access learning activities and receive more communication from their teachers. Thank you to all parents who replied to the survey regarding laptop use. We will be contacting identified families in Year 10 regarding the potential loan of a device after half term.

We are piloting some Year 12 online learning sessions via Microsoft Teams. If this is successful, we hope to be able to trial this with some other classes. Year 12 and Year 10 being our priority if they have not returned to school.

If you have any queries about work set or feedback given by teachers, please put the subject and year group in the title and send the email to administration@rutlish.merton.sch.uk so it can be directed to the relevant members of staff.

Vulnerable students and children of critical key workers

Students from all year groups who are in these categories may continue to attend school where necessary. Please send an email to your son's Head of Year if you need to send him to school after half term using the usual email administration@rutlish.merton.sch.uk



Please ensure you give at least one week's notification to give us time to ensure there are enough staff and protective measures to meet the number of students on site and to give staff time to prepare sessions.

Students should arrive in full school uniform with their books and equipment, a reading book, Rutlish PE kit, water bottle and a packed lunch.

School will be open Monday to Friday from 8.45 am until 2.50 pm.

We have limited catering but lunch can be purchased from the canteen. Please make sure there is money on their account as we will not be using the machines. The catering staff will note and record lunch payments. Lunch will be provided for all those eligible free School Meals.

Health and safeguarding

If anyone in your household develops coronavirus (COVID-19) [symptoms](#) please follow the [staying at home guidance](#).

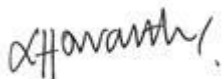
If you have symptoms and would like to be tested please [seek advice via NHS 111](#) and then [apply for a test](#).

Your son's safety and wellbeing will always be a key priority, so please do get in touch if you have any concerns: SafeGuarding@rutlish.merton.sch.uk

I will write to you again following the next Government update about secondary schools.

Thank you for your support; I hope you are able to enjoy a well-earned break during half term.

Yours sincerely,



Ms L Howarth
Headteacher

Cc: all staff, all governors.

