



June 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

I am writing to let you know of changes that I am making for the provision of vulnerable children/children of key workers from Monday 15 June.

As you may know, some Year 10 students will be coming back into school at this point as part of the government's plan for this year group to receive some face-to-face contact with their teachers in preparation for starting their final year of education. This means that there will be more students on site, at a time when social-distancing is so important. At the same time, the numbers of students accessing the key worker provision has risen since half-term. I am committed to continuing this very important provision, which we have run over Easter, Bank Holidays and half-term, throughout the term for any students that need to access it but I also have to ensure the safety of all children accessing the site and to maintain the high standards of behaviour that I would expect from all students attending this school.

As a consequence, the following changes will take place from Monday 15 June:

1. All students will be expected to wear full school uniform. I am asking Year 10s to do this so I would like all of the students on site to do the same. There have been a few incidents of poor behaviour recently and I believe that wearing school uniform reinforces the idea that we are in school to work. I appreciate there may be some issues regarding uniform and I would ask you to contact your child's Head of Year if this is the case as we have some stocks of nearly-new uniform that we would be happy to lend out on a first-come-first served basis for the remainder of term.
2. There have been a few instances of children being on their phones during school sessions instead of completing work. Children may bring phones into school but I will expect them to be put away at the beginning of the day. They can use them during break and lunchtimes (this won't be the case in September as we will revert back to our normal policy of phones being expected to be switched off during the school day).
3. I am afraid we will be unable to offer a free lunch from Monday 15 June, as we have done since the provision first opened in March. This is because of rising costs due to the increased numbers of students. We will still provide a free snack at breaktime to all children, and children who are entitled to receive a free school meal will be given a packed lunch. Otherwise, children can either bring in a packed lunch of their own or can order a packed lunch (£2.40). because the catering team will need to order in the necessary stock, you will need to order this by Thursday the week before. This will be charged to your child's catering account so please make sure there is enough money in the account when ordering. The packed lunch will be labelled and available from the kitchen servery that day. If you wish to cancel a lunch then we will provide a refund as long as we have 24 hours' notice.

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4. The provision for the day will change slightly, with 3 hours being given to complete online work (instead of the 2 currently), an hour of outside activity (weather depending), and an hour for another task devised by the staff on duty that day. The provision will now be based in our Tokyo and Durban blocks because they are on the opposite side of the school to where the Year 10s will be based. This is to reinforce social distancing and to avoid the mixing of students. Students will access these blocks by entering the school site via the entrance by the bike sheds.

Lastly, I would ask you to please remind your children about the importance of social distancing. It is natural for children to want to be with each other but there are increasing numbers of students arriving together in groups, with minimal distancing. They are always very quick to distance themselves when I or other members of staff remind them but I know that some of you will have family members that you are trying to shield (as do the staff) and I would appreciate you reminding your children that they should keep their distance. This will help reduce the chances of the virus spreading amongst the community.

Thank you and I hope that you are all keeping safe.



Mr A Govan
Headteacher

If, at any time, you should require special arrangements to be made when visiting the school and/or in order to participate fully in supporting your child at school (e.g. an accessible venue for meetings, if you are a wheelchair user, assistance with translation of documents or enlarged copies of communications etc.), please do not hesitate to let us know.