



RANGE HIGH SCHOOL

Challenge • Support • Flourish

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Head Teacher: Mr M. McGarry MA, PGCE, NPQH

12th May 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

As always, I do hope you and your families are safe and well as we all continue to tread a path through this dreadful pandemic.

You may well be aware that the government has issued a fresh set of guidance relating to the easing of the current lockdown moving forward. This includes quite an extensive update by the DFE on what a phased re-opening of education may look like from the 1st June onwards. There are different proposals in place for both the secondary and primary sectors and at this stage all of this could change if infection rates were to rise or fall faster than anticipated.

I am currently working with the staff at Range, as well as meeting with Headteachers from other local Secondary Schools, to come to an agreed model that we feel would be of most benefit to all of our students, but in a way that ensures everyone is as safe as is possible when starting the process of re-integration for certain year groups. The intention is to start on a small scale with students in Years 10 and 12 in allocated groups. The rationale here being that these students will be facing public examinations next year and therefore would benefit the most from having at least some time with their teachers before the academic year finishes.

We at Range will continue to review our provision for other year groups but currently it looks unlikely that those students will physically attend school until September. Again, this will be subject to alteration should the DFE change its guidance. I would like to stress that any proposed model for Year 10 and Year 12 will be an 'offer' of coming to school. Students and their families will be in different categories depending on their own health and that of members of their families. As much as we will encourage you to come to school at the allocated times and slots, there will be no statutory duty to do so at this time as you will see from the guidance, a full copy of which is available here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

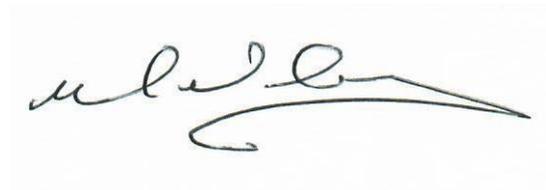
When we have finalised our provision model for Year 10 and Year 12 students, I will be in touch with further details. Mr Dolly will also be in touch with everyone else on reviewing and updating our provision for other year groups. It would be very helpful if you could reply to any survey questions or email returns requested in the next week or so. As with all of our endeavours throughout the current pandemic, there is no perfect answer to many, many issues that have arisen. As a school we have always tried to be transparent and to ensure the very best provision whilst operating within the limitations of DFE instruction and Professional Association guidelines. I can assure you we will continue to operate in this way. Of paramount importance has always been everyone's health, safety and wellbeing and again that will remain the case as we enter this next phase.

Once again, thank you for your heartfelt messages of support for everything we are trying to do. Hearing your positive and encouraging feedback is a great boost to staff morale in this challenging period.

In the meantime we will continue to offer provision to our key worker children group over half-term and beyond. I will also send out our latest newsletter before the half term break highlighting many of the great acts of kindness happening across our school community and often led by our fantastic students.

Finally, don't miss our video message as well as our song to thank our Key Workers - both available from our website links. A big thank you to Mrs Wilson and Mr Povey and to everyone who participated - I hope they bring a smile to your face.

With my best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike McGarry', with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right and then curves back under the signature.

Mike McGarry
Headteacher