

**Parents/Carers of All Students
In Year 11**

Our Ref: SKN/lha

12th May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

As many of you will be aware the Government have outlined their plans for a three-stage approach to ‘*rebuild the UK for a world with COVID-19.*’ It is important we all remember that this will not be a quick return to ‘normality’ and that all the Government’s plans are based on meeting their five tests and seeing continued reductions in infection rates. The Government’s plan states:

‘We therefore anticipate, with further progress, that we may be able, from the week commencing 1 June, to welcome back more children to early years, school and further education settings. We will only do this provided that the 5 key tests set by government justify the changes at the time, including that the rate of infection is decreasing and the enabling programmes set out in the roadmap are operating effectively. As a result we are asking schools, colleges and childcare providers to plan on this basis, ahead of confirmation that these tests are met.’

There is a clear intent to re-open schools on 1st June for Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 in the Primary phase. There is also an ambition to see Secondary schools:

‘...offer some face-to-face support to supplement the remote education for Year 10 students...’

There is no mention of other Year Groups in secondary schools at the moment, and we should consider carefully what we tell our young people. It may not be wise to promise children that they will be returning as any return is conditional on continued improvement in the COVID-19 crisis. Equally, it is now very unlikely we will see Year 11 students return to Hanham and our combined efforts should remain on preparing them for their next steps.

Further guidance for parents/carers has been issued by the Government and 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>

For now, Hanham Woods Academy remains open for vulnerable children and those whose parents/carers are key workers – if you require a place based on these categories for your child please do contact the Academy using HWAclosure@clf.uk We will continue to provide some resources via Show My Homework which we would strongly recommend students attempt to complete. We would also recommend that young people follow a routine or structure each day. This has been proven to support their mental health and wellbeing and will also support their return to whatever education, employment or training provision they have selected, whenever this may be. We do understand that life at home will be different for everyone and do not wish to add to the anxieties that you and your families may be facing. There is a ‘Preparing for Post 16’ document on our website. There are also a wide range of free courses online including first aid, preparing for driving test, how to complete a CV or letter of application etc and this may provide a useful focus of attention for your child.

As an examination centre we continue to use a wide range of evidence and knowledge of your child to make a well-considered and fair Centre Assessed Grade for each of their subjects. This involves the teacher, other departmental members, heads of subject, senior leaders, specialists from beyond the academy all working together so you can feel assured that these grades will be representative of what we believe your child would have achieved had they taken their GCSE examinations this summer. We are not allowed to divulge these grades to anyone ahead of the release of grades to students in August.

We will also continue to support you and your family in any way we can. Your child remains on our school roll until the end of June and if you need to reach out for support please do so; we have a team waiting to respond to any emails sent to HWAclosure@clf.uk

Can I take this opportunity to remind you of the Government's guidance around good hand hygiene, social distancing and that you should still only leave the house for exercise, to shop for essentials or to work if you cannot work from home and it is safe for you to do so. Stay safe and stay strong.

Many thanks

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S T Kneller', written in a cursive style.

Mr S T Kneller | Academy Principal