

21 May 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

As you will be aware, the government has asked schools to begin to plan to open for more students from early June. This is specifically for year 10 students in secondary schools.

We will, of course, continue to maintain our provision that we have offered since March to the children of critical workers and vulnerable children. These arrangements remain unchanged. We are already in contact with these parents.

My absolute priority moving forward is to ensure that we only open to more students if and when it is safe to do so. I am working with my team to carry out a robust risk assessment to inform my decision-making.

At this point, I would like to make it very clear that my expectation, in line with government guidance, is that this will be phased with very small numbers in the academy at any one time. This will be for year 10 only for the summer term, alongside our critical worker and vulnerable children provision. All other year groups will continue with their online learning and will not be in school.

As your child is not in year 10, online learning will continue to be the sole focus for their study. We will continue to seek to strengthen this online provision.

We also continue to make calls to every family during this time to ensure everyone is safe and well. We have VMG and Assemblies every week and continue to publicise important websites on our social media pages, so that all families can continue to access information, advice and guidance.

We have no further details yet with regard to increasing our provision for years 7, 8 and 9 but I would like to reiterate that I will operate in line with the government guidance and I will only open the academy to more students if and when it is safe to do so. However, it is important to note that students in years 7, 8 and 9 (other than children of critical workers vulnerable children) are **still not required** to attend the academy for the foreseeable future. I will of course write to you when decisions are made regarding this.

In these unprecedented times, where we have all had to learn and work in different ways, I would like to thank you for your amazing support with your child's online learning and for the encouragement you have given your child to continue to learn online. Please continue to do this. It makes a great difference.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns, please do get in touch via the 'Contact Us' section of the website. You can also email google@bishopsgarth.outwood.com with any questions regarding google classroom. Although your child may not be attending the academy, we are still very keen to support families where we can.

Yours faithfully



Mrs. Hutchinson-Jones
Principal