



JOSEPH PAXTON CAMPUS

Wirral Hospitals' School
"Working together to make everything better"
An Ofsted "Outstanding" School

Headteacher: Mr P Arrowsmith

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2nd June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome 'back' after the half term break. As we enter the final half term of this year, I thought it would be a good time to catch up with you all regarding our plans for the next seven weeks and beyond.

As you all know, the country is still at stage 4 of the Covid Alert Level system, but we are slowly moving towards stage 3. As part of this move, some students are being encouraged to return to school, mainly at primary level so far. However, the level of transmission is still very high, especially in our region, and so the dangers posed by this virus remain real and significant, so we must be cautious.

I have written to all Year 10 parents recently, encouraging them to start returning their students to school from 1st July, even if it is just for a few visits. The reason we have started with this year group is so that they are as ready as they can be for their final year with us next year. We have no idea at this stage what the new school year will look like in September, but I feel it is important to prepare for 'normal' school life and then deal with challenges as they arise.

For all other students, the advice remains the same – please keep your child at home if at all possible. We have worked hard to ensure that the school is as safe as it can possibly be - and there will be some changes to our normal way of operating when students do return in greater numbers - but clearly there will always be a risk which increases with every additional child in school. However, please be clear: we WILL accommodate your child if they need to return during this half term.

On the subject of safety, we have written an extensive risk assessment, which includes some guiding principles and outlines the changes your child will face whenever they do return. In a few weeks' time, I will write to you again outlining these changes and showing you where you can access this risk assessment. When you receive this letter, please read it carefully with your child so that the transition back to 'normal' school life is as smooth and safe as possible. I hope that by reading this and seeing the safety measures we have implemented, you will feel assured that we have done all we can to ensure the safety of all staff and students.

One thing I would say to you all is that now we know most secondary aged students won't return until September, it is becoming increasingly important that our young people stay in touch with education and learning whilst at home. They can do this using the national schemes on BBC Bitesize and the Oak Learning Academy, or using the guidance on our website, or a combination of the two.

Please view our website for the latest news and information, including all letters sent home



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As we prepare for more students to return, it will be harder to set individual work for those at home, so please do encourage your child to access learning using these online platforms, wherever possible. I think we need to brace ourselves for the possibility that part of next year may involve at least some home learning in addition to time in school, so the sooner you can establish a good routine around this, the better it will be. We do, however, recognise that this poses huge challenges for some of our students. In these cases, please talk to us during our phone calls home and we can work together to try to support you.

As always, thank you for your patience and understanding at this difficult time. We are still here for you as much as always, so please do raise concerns during your phone calls, or by email at schooloffice@wirralhs.co.uk

Stay safe! I look forward to seeing you all before too long.

Yours sincerely,



Phill Arrowsmith
Headteacher

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