

15 May 2020

Dear Parent/carers

Coronavirus (Covid-19) Update - School Reopening

Thank you for your continued support of the school and also the time you are putting into ensuring your child is able to continue learning whilst at home.

We have listened to the announcements this week and read the guidance that has been published by the Government about the limited reopening of secondary schools. We are aware that these are uncertain times and unfortunately at this stage I am unable to provide greater clarity around the school plans.

The Prime Minister's announcement on Sunday was that he intended secondary schools to reopen to provide face-to-face tutorials for Year 10 and Year 12 students. This does mean that based on the current announcement, other year groups will not have the opportunity to return to school before the end of this academic year. In the case of Year 10 and Year 12, any return to school will not involve them completing their normal timetable. Instead, the purpose of tutorials will be to support students with their home learning. The current in-school provision in place for key worker children and vulnerable students will continue.

When you heard the announcement, I am sure like us, your feelings were mixed; on the one hand pleased that we might be returning to normal in however small a way, on the other anxious about whether your child would be safe and whether they might spread the infection. These fears have been highlighted in the press. With the support of the Trust, we have taken the decision to delay sending out to parents/carers any detailed advice about when and how our school will reopen.

The 1 June has been given as the earliest date that schools will reopen, we will only reopen when we believe it is safe and we have had time to make the necessary preparations to the site and with our staff. I will give you at least one week's notice.

We are working on our plans for when school eventually reopens. There are many factors that we need to take into account, including how students arrive and leave school safely, what we need to do to ensure social distancing in school and any additional cleaning measures needed. Again, I will let you know exactly what we are doing to make our school as safe as possible, at least one week before any students return.

I fully appreciate that you will be anxious about what is going to happen when our school reopens and you would like to know as soon as possible. We will only contact you when we are sure that the information we give ensures your child's safety and is based on the latest advice.

As a school, we have had to re-evaluate what the future may look like and plan for the long-lasting impact of COVID-19. This will mean making adjustments to our curriculum and workforce to ensure we can continue to offer high-quality provision for our school community. I will share these with you as we prepare for school to reopen for all our students whenever that may be.

Thank you for taking the time to read through this letter. We know there will be many questions you would like to ask us and we will do our best to answer where we can, but please understand that this is a new and unique time

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for all of us and we would ask for your patience and understanding as we prepare for when our school eventually reopens. If you would like to ask a question please send these to enquiries@wellingschool-tkat.org.

Please can I also confirm our arrangements for half term. We will be closed on Monday Bank Holiday for all students but will be open Tuesday to Friday to provide care for key worker children and vulnerable students.

Finally, I do want to share with parents/carers the results of the survey completed last week. I will share these with you next week. Many thanks to those parents/carers who completed the survey and took the time to write comments which are both really helpful and supportive of the school.

With very best wishes.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Pett', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mr R Pett
Headteacher