



Dear Parents and Carers

Newark Academy Sixth Form Re-Opening for Students in X12

We have been reviewing the recent information published by the Government and have given careful consideration as to how we can address the recommendations that have been made and we would like to make parents aware of our intentions. At this time we have been requested by the Government to provide some face to face support but the main form of instruction will continue to be online via One Note and email.

Naturally, the plans that we are making at this time are subject to change if the guidance around schools re-opening is updated by the Government in the period between this communication and the date we expect to see some students return to Sixth Form and we will do our utmost to inform you if this situation occurs.

The current guidance states that 'from the week commencing 15th June, secondary schools are to offer face-to-face support to supplement the remote education of year 10 and year 12 pupils, which should remain the predominant mode of education during this term for pupils in these year groups.'

With a large cohort in Year 10 alongside our students in X12, we wanted to ensure that we take careful and considered steps towards returning as the recent guidance from the Government only permits 25% of the Year 10 and X12 cohort on site on any given day.

At Newark Academy Sixth Form we are keen to follow through with this guidance and offer our students the support they need with their studies, whilst everyone remains safe in doing so and as a result we have kept to the following underlying principles:

- Students, staff and, therefore, everyone's wider families are kept as safe as possible at all times.
- All examination students in X12 are offered equal access to subject staff.

Having looked at the guidance from the Government and in consultation with the Governing Body and the Nova Education Trust we have decided to adopt a two-phase approach at NA6:

1. Pastoral
2. Academic

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1. Pastoral Phase: WC 15th June

The welfare of our students is at the heart of everything we do and so the first phase will focus on a pastoral conversation to ensure that we ascertain a clear understanding of students' wellbeing at this difficult and unprecedented time in which we all find ourselves. The pastoral phase will take place during **WC 15th June** and students will be given an appointment time to attend a session in school on either **Monday 15th June or Tuesday 16th June**. Students should bring their recent set of mock examinations with them to these sessions too.

2. Academic Phase: WC 22nd June, WC 29th June and WC 6th July

Due to the size of Newark Academy Sixth Form, we find ourselves in an advantageous and unique position as we are able to provide longer periods of contact with staff as a part of the second phase of our approach. The second phase will provide an opportunity for students to have an extended session over a three-week window with their subject teacher in a small group setting that fully abides by the Government's social distancing policy and these sessions will also include access to NA6 study areas.

This contact will be face to face and there will be an opportunity to have instruction via an online platform in the Sixth Form study area too. Students will be given a bespoke timetable which will indicate the dates and times that they will be required to attend NA6 during **WC 22nd June, WC 29th June and WC 6th July**.

These sessions, over the three-week window, will be used to supplement the online teaching and learning provision via One Note and email which will continue to remain in place until the end of term.

Unfortunately, due to the level of detailed planning required for the re-opening of the Sixth Form we are unable to offer your son or daughter an alternative timetable or an alternative appointment and we would also request that students are punctual and arrive early to ensure they can enter the building safely via the sanitation stations and proceed to their classrooms and appointments in good time.

We do appreciate that some parents and students may be anxious about returning to the Academy and we want to reassure you that we have established clear systems, procedures and we have conducted thorough risk assessments that fully abide by national social distancing advice and guidance. The timetable has also

been totally restructured, thus minimising the staff required on site and frequent movement between classes as only 25% of the Year 10 and X12 cohort are being timetabled to come into the Academy on any given day.

A useful guide will be shared with students next week to enable them to understand their role in keeping everyone safe along with their appointment times. What is crucial, is that your son or daughter listens to advice and instructions on entry at the school gate and on the premises for their own safety and for the safety of others and we have every confidence that all of NA6 will abide by these rules which have been put into place to keep everyone safe and well.

During this time, students at NA6 are not required to wear their standard uniform, they can wear smart casual clothing. This is similar to the clothing that students would usually wear for their dress down days at the end of each term. They must ensure that any tops or summer dresses are not low cut or reveal their midriff. On this occasion, we are permitting our male students in NA6 to wear long shorts and these shorts should be on or just above the knee. Flip flops and open toe sandals will not be permitted for our males or females for health and safety reasons. NA6 have never let us down on any of these occasions and they have thoroughly enjoyed this privilege and we wish to continue our high standards and we are confident that our NA6 students will wish to maintain them too.

In order to fulfill the level of planning that is needed to fully reopen the Sixth Form, I must request that you fill in the Newark Academy School Reopening Survey that was distributed by Mr Fisher. We have included a link to this below:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=LuLr9FO180SIVj4NhJCOuBMzPh9MLQ1MuidhGvWi3VZURFdXU1NKNFczNjIVRE5YS0pMUDk0QklzTi4u>

Successful completion of this form will allow us to plan in detail and ensure all students are safe and can access the support they need to help them with their studies.

We would like to thank you for your continued support and further communications will be released next week to update and inform you about safe access to the premises and further information will be released about appointment times for Phase 1 of the return to NA6 too. At the end of Phase 1 and no later than Friday 19th June, the timetables will be released for Phase 2.

Please do not hesitate to contact me via email or main reception if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hamilton-Smith". The script is cursive and fluid.

Mrs J Hamilton-Smith
Head of Newark Academy Sixth Form

