

Dear Parent/Carer,

Following on from the May half term break, the government has now announced that whilst primary children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 will return from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020, secondary schools will remain closed to all children except those of key workers and those who are classed as vulnerable up until the 15<sup>th</sup> June 2020.

From the 15<sup>th</sup> of June, schools will be inviting some Year 10 and some Year 12 pupils into school, to undertake a one to one conversations with a known and familiar adult, such as their pastoral leader, tutor or teacher. This meeting is designed to be pastoral in nature and will provide an opportunity to undertake a pastoral conversation and offer an opportunity to reconnect with Academy staff.

I recently wrote to you prior to the break outlining our present position and we were busy preparing to open to both Y10 and Y12 students as of the 1<sup>st</sup> of June.

Since the announcement, we remain committed to taking a cautious and measured approach to reopening and are using the next two weeks to induct staff, provide comprehensive staff training to ensure that operationally, staff remain safe and protected as much as possible through strict adherence to social distancing as well as make ready, one to one meeting spaces and online learning systems to enable conversations to be held in a safe and efficient way.

We have been meeting extensively throughout the day to confirm our plans for the coming weeks in readiness to not only welcome back pupils in Y10 and Y12 but in time, offer a similar provision for all pupils as it is our ambition here at Newark Academy, to make contact with every student prior to the summer break. Of course, this will need very careful thought and planning but our intentions are pure and we are working hard to make this a reality.

In the meantime, we are carrying out a range of activity to ensure that our site is ready to welcome staff and pupils from the 15<sup>th</sup> and I will write to those parents of invited children prior to the 15<sup>th</sup> with exact details as to how we will ensure that Y10 and Y12 pupils are provided with a one to one experience to help them reacclimatise to Academy life.

All other pupils, at present, should continue to access their online learning material and contact their teachers and the Academy if they are in need of advice guidance or support.

For those parents and carers who are key workers, the Academy remains open and provision is available should you need it. To book this facility, please submit your request via the website as previously stated.

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Should you have any questions or queries following this email, please do forward these to <u>office@newarkacademy.co.uk</u> where someone from our team will respond to you as soon as we are able to.

For now, I hope that you have had an excellent break and that you and your families are safe and well.

Take good care of yourselves and thank you as always for your continued support.

Kind regards,

John

Andy Seymour (Headteacher)