

22nd May 2020

Dear parents/carers

I would like to open my letter by thanking parents. Thank you for the tremendous support you have given to staff in working with your son/daughter. You have been so generous in your comments and feedback. We share your messages in our regular staff updates which are greatly appreciated. You may like to follow this link which highlights [Thank A Teacher Day](#) which took place this week.

You will be aware of the national debate surrounding the gradual reopening of schools; in particular that we are being asked to consider some 'face-to-face' time for Year 10 and 12 students. We are planning for this to happen but are still waiting for detailed guidance from the DfE. Today I have written separately to parents of students in these groups with more information. The letter will also include a short survey which will help our decisions.

Meanwhile we are considering a wide range of risk assessments and assessing our staff availability. We must ensure that any arrangements prioritise the welfare of us all.

Our return to school is particularly dependent on the government announcement expected on 28th May. We understand that this will confirm, change or delay plans for reopening as we move forward.

Transition lessons for Year 11 students are now taking place. These are to help students prepare for their move to our sixth form. Please click here for the [live lesson timetable](#). The lessons give students an insight into courses and will help course selection. There are also [transition booklets](#) which will need to be completed as part of entry into our sixth form.

During this time we are proud to have been able to maintain our careers and advice service. This work helps students make well informed decisions about their career plans. There are 1:1 conversations available and activities on Show My Homework. There is also information on our [school careers \(CEIAG\) webpage](#). The following links are useful and designed for both parents and students - [Career Journey Information](#) and [Parent and Carers' Guide to Careers eBook](#). Please contact our careers leader, Mrs Le-Gall (alegall@uhs.org.uk) if you would like further help or have questions.

We know that some of our families are facing challenging personal issues including illness and bereavement. With this in mind, I would ask that you do not hesitate to let us know of any special circumstances. This may be particularly important in helping us to support students when they do return to school.

Our families continue to reassure us that they have suitable arrangements to keep their children safe. If you have changed circumstances and you are not able to safely care for your children, then please let us know straightaway.

If you need to contact us, voicemails are being monitored during normal opening hours. When calling please leave your name, the nature of your enquiry and a return contact number. Or please feel free to email the school on office@uhs.org.uk. We will endeavour to respond where needed as quickly as we can. Please also tell us if your email, phone number or any personal details have changed so that we can keep our records up to date.

I wish you and your family a pleasant half term.

Yours faithfully



N B Clemens
Principal

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