



17 July 2020

Rossett School

Success for everyone

Dear Parents/Carers

I am pleased to write to you at the end of this term, looking forward to September and the return to school for all students.

As the Summer holidays approach, we have come to the end of our formal on-line teaching for this academic year. The classroom doors have closed for the last time today behind our Year 12 and Year 10, and I am pleased to report on the excellent attendance and attitude of all our students to the physical provision on site and their participation in on-line 'live' lessons and learning – working remotely. It has been a pleasure to see the Rossett School site alive with learning, in anticipation of a full return of staff and students.

Year 6 have completed their transition remotely in the last two weeks, with various on-line and pre-recorded events organised by Mrs Grabham (Director of Learning: Year 7).

Results' Days 2020

Whilst the teaching and feedback have continued there has been much work complete by a variety of teams behind the scenes to ready the school for our Results' Days:

Year 13: (A Level/KS5 results): 13 August 2020

Year 11: (GCSE/KS4 results): 20 August 2020

This year, our Results' Days will take place remotely. There will be support for individual students and their families available in school or via TEAMS on the day, and separate letters have gone out to all parents in these year groups outlining the processes and organisation for the days.

September 2020: Reopening for all students

You will be aware that the government guidance, released to schools and the public on the 2 July 2020, makes it clear that all students are expected back into full-time education from September. In the last two weeks extensive plans have been written by our Senior Leadership Team and developed with our Trustees and governing body. Health and safety have been at the forefront of our work and we are confident that these plans fulfil the stated desire for students to return to an 'ambitious and broad' curriculum, whilst bearing in mind the need to 'minimise contact between groups.'

Hygiene and Health

We will continue to revisit our Health and Safety Risk Assessment over the next few weeks. An updated version of the detailed document which has already been assessed by Governors will be approved before we commence teaching in September. The health and hygiene measures that have been in place since March at Rossett School have included enhanced cleaning; hand and respiratory hygiene procedures and practices; a rapid 'identification and removal' policy for any member of the community feeling unwell; robust social distancing and the reduction of contacts; and an active engagement in the national 'Test and Trace' procedures. These practices will continue in September.

Increased and targeted cleaning will be a feature of our reopening. Hand-sanitiser stations installed in March are already a familiar sight to most students and we have added extra capacity whilst in lockdown. The best advice in all guidance received by schools is that

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students should continue to clean their hands regularly; our PSHE lessons and familiarisation schedule for September will ensure that this message is reinforced from the first day of opening. Although we have increased our sanitiser provision and there are opportunities for students to wash hands throughout the day, we would ask if you could help the school significantly by providing your child with their own hand sanitiser as part of their essential 'back to school kit' for the autumn term.

Uniform and Equipment

Full uniform will be expected for every child in September; the only change that we are making to our usual expectation is the requirement for students to wear their P.E. kit to school on the days when they have timetabled Physical Education. We have read the guidance from the DfE and from Public Health England regarding face coverings in school. Currently the advice is that they are not required or recommended for schools, 'as pupils and staff are mixing in consistent groups, and misuse may inadvertently increase the risk of transmission.'

Transport and Arrival at School

We will issue further guidance for those who travel by bus to school towards the end of the summer holidays. Further guidance on transport is expected before September. We will be encouraging all students, where possible, to walk or cycle to school.

On arrival ... through the designated gate, or from their bus, students will be requested to remain outside the school building until 8.45am when we know that their 'bubble' is fully staffed. They will have a year-specific area that they can wait in which will be supervised.

The end of the school day has been altered slightly for Years 7-9 to reduce the potential congestion in corridors and boarding buses. Year 7 will leave lessons at 3.00pm, Years 8 and 9 at 3.05pm and Years 10-13 at the normal time of 3.10pm.

For the first few weeks of term there will be no after-school activities. This will allow us to establish the core routines and assess how to reinstate a co-curricular programme that ensures the safety of all students.

Organisation and Curriculum

In order to minimise the number of possible contact points between staff and students, whilst still responding to the demand to deliver a broad and balanced curriculum, we have organised the school into six 'schools' or 'bubbles', each containing a separate year group. Each of these 'schools' has been given a distinct geographical area of our site and will benefit from associated separate resources in each building (e.g. toilet blocks). Each 'school' will have different exits and entrances with the minimum amount of movement between rooms during the day. There will be separate indoor and outdoor areas for before and after school, there are staggered break and lunchtimes, with separate dining facilities for each year group.

Desks and classrooms have been organised and laid out with students facing forward and equipment set up to minimise contact. Specialist teaching will take place in practical rooms and according to a rota system.

Our planned curriculum from September will involve a period of audit and consolidation of knowledge gained in lockdown; the prioritisation of key learning points from this academic year; and then a rapid move towards building on last year's progress as we start the next year's programme. 'Catch up funding' has been promised for next year and when further details of this arrive, we will allocate resources to meet the needs of individual students.

We will carry over into next year the best features of our online learning from the five months and each child will have access to TEAMS and a 'shadow curriculum' as a contingency for

any individual or small groups who may have to self-isolate. This function will also be available as part of our curriculum and homework system from September.

Break and Lunchtimes

These will be staggered during the day and allow each 'school' access to a hot food option and a separate dining area. In order to avoid the use of our 'thumbprint' payment we have organised a coded, non-contact system for September.

Further Communication regarding September

During lockdown, we were aware that many of our families had changes to their circumstances at home. If you need to update your child's Year Team before September, then emails can be sent to the following email addresses. As the school is closed for the summer there may not be an immediate reply but rest assured that any information that you send to us will be logged for action upon our return.

Mrs Grabham (Year 7): hgrabham@rossettschool.co.uk
Miss Mooney (Year 8): nmooney@rossettschool.co.uk
Mr Sweetman (Year 9): msweetman@rossettschool.co.uk
Mrs Grimshaw (Year 10): egrimshaw@rossettschool.co.uk
Mr Bulmer (Year 11): mbulmer@rossettschool.co.uk
Dr Reed (Years 12/13): creed@rossettschool.co.uk

There is more information that we need to share with you prior to opening and so I would respectfully ask that you note the following dates for checking your emails regarding updates and confirmation of our reopening protocols:

w/b 24 August and w/b 31 August 2020.

I wish you all a relaxing and enjoyable summer break and we look forward to welcoming all of our students back in September.

Kind regards

H Woodcock
Headteacher