



# THE WHITSTABLE SCHOOL

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8th June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

## Re: Phased Reopening

I am writing to you following the letter sent last Monday with more details about the reopening of school to years 10 and 12 from Monday 15th June. We are really looking forward to getting more pupils back to school. We hope that you and your families have remained well and have enjoyed some of the benefits of spending more time together. Details of the measures and procedures that we are putting in place are below, these have been drawn up in line with the guidance sent to schools from the Department for Education, professional associations and Swale Academies Trust. As Headteacher I have full access to all information available and can assure you that the Chair of Governors and senior leadership team have made every decision with full consideration of the welfare and health and safety of our pupils, staff and families.

## Health, Safety, Transport, Behaviour and free lunch

We have put in place all the Government recommended protective measures in terms of health and safety (for further details see our Health and Safety Addendum on the school website). The school site, including the car park, will be closed to all parents. If you are dropping off or collecting your son or daughter at school, please do so away from the school building and car park.

The current Government advice is "to avoid using public transport, where possible." If it is not possible to avoid using public transport, members of the public are advised to ensure that they do everything they can to keep to social distancing rules on public transport, and wear a face covering. Indeed, the Transport Secretary announced on Thursday 4th June that the wearing of a face covering on public transport is compulsory from Monday 15th June. If it is possible for your son or daughter to make their way to school without using public transport, we would strongly advise them to do so.

The school has adapted the behaviour policy to ensure social distancing is respected and adhered to with helpful signage to remind all (for further details see the Behaviour Policy Addendum on the school website). As part of our commitment to safeguarding children we expect pupils to return in uniform to promote a sense of belonging and being part of our community (please see the Safeguarding Policy Addendum on the school website).

They can bring a pencil case but stationery and equipment will be available for them to keep.

We have commissioned our contract caterer Nourish to provide a free lunch to everybody. There will be a staggered lunch for each separate group of pupils.

## Year 10

Year 10 will attend in two staggered groups of up to 15 pupils they will receive a series of wellbeing lessons and English, maths and science lessons once a week. They will remain in the same room and a lead teacher will deliver the lesson. A separate individual timetable will be sent by the Progress Leader with their day and room, (either The Stage or CZ1) and the designated entry point from the main car park to an exterior door and specific timings of the day.



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## **Year 12**

Year 12 pupils are in small subject groups mainly based in the Cove area of the school, they enter and exit via The Cove car park. For Creative subjects they can access the top floor of Creative building via the Active Life lift foyer and stairwell to the first floor and CZ22. A separate individual timetable will be sent by the Head of Sixth form with specific timings for the day.

## **Key worker & vulnerable pupil group**

The key worker and vulnerable children will continue to attend between 0840 and 3pm and use the pupil entrance; we need them to wear uniform from Monday 15th June.

## **Years 7 to 9**

Remote teaching will continue for the remaining year groups until the Government advises us that it is safe to reopen for these additional year groups.

## **Site visitors and contractors**

We are restricting all visitors to the site. Parents must make an appointment to come into school and must not turn up at reception expecting to be seen, please contact us via the school telephone number.

If your child or a family member at home is displaying symptoms of Covid-19 please do not send your child to school. You should let the Attendance Officer Mrs Loxley-Jones via 01227 931345 or via email on [nichola.loxleyjones@swale.at](mailto:nichola.loxleyjones@swale.at) know and follow government guidance on self-isolation. This will help us to protect our school community.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding and we are looking forward to returning to school routines, teaching and learning and most importantly interacting, albeit at a distance with our Year 10 and Year 12 pupils.

Yours sincerely



**Mrs AM Gibson**  
**Headteacher**