

Wednesday 13th May, 2020.



# Penketh High School

Dear Parents and Carers,

I'm sure you'll be aware that the government have signalled their intention for schools to provide year 10 pupils with some face-to-face interaction next half term to support their remote learning. I wanted to write you separately from our whole school weekly update, as I know that there is perhaps some anxiety around the announcement and I wanted to allay any fears that you may have.

Currently, whilst the guidance issued to secondary schools suggests that we "begin some face-to-face support" it also states that there is no expectation that pupils will "return on a full-time basis at this stage."

At this moment in time we have engaged in some positive planning conversations both at school level and with our colleagues across both TCAT and the wider Warrington group of schools. We are all dedicated to providing pupils with effective provision whilst ensuring that our planning that places their health and wellbeing as the top priority.

I want to be clear that whilst we haven't reached a final decision on what provision would look like for pupils at this stage; we are working hard to carefully plan what our provision could look like whilst adhering to guidance relating to the management in schools during this crisis.

At present school remains open to the children of key workers and vulnerable pupils. In addition we continue to provide pupils with resources and interactive lessons that follow their normal timetable through Teams. Their engagement in these lessons is important and we have seen some exceptional work being produced by pupils, despite the difficulties and challenges faced at this time. The commitment shown by pupils is commendable and this will only support their preparation for the examinations at the end of next year.

I know this is a very difficult time for both parents and pupils with their exams only 12 months away, but I want you to know that planning to support their preparation across the remainder of this year and year 11 remains one of our key priorities, with their wellbeing remaining our top priority.

We will continue to update you with any further developments or information as we receive it and when we're in a position to deliver a clear plan for the Year 10 provision following half-term, we'll communicate this to you as quickly as we are able.

Can I thank you for your ongoing support and for the words of encouragement that have been sent in recent days, these have been greatly appreciated by staff. As always, I'd like to wish you all the very best and hope that you and your families remain in good health.

Yours sincerely,

Mr J Carlin  
Principal.



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