

St Wilfrid's Catholic School

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Diocese of Arundel & Brighton and West Sussex County Council

25 June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I sincerely hope that you are all keeping safe and well during these difficult times.

I had hoped to be able to give you some idea by now as to what plans are in place for September however, despite the Prime Minister's statement that schools will "return in September with full attendance", we still await any further details, which we have been promised shortly from the Secretary of State for Education, Gavin Williamson. In the meantime, our plans to start the new academic year are being based upon being able to open fully however this will depend heavily upon what social distancing measures remain in place at that time. I will write to you again once I have more information however any plans made now or in the next few weeks will remain provisional until closer to September.

Following my most recent letter regarding the wider re-opening of school for Year 10 and 12 students, the last two weeks have seen us welcome back a number of Year 10 and 12 students who have all worked well in their small groups and have "enjoyed being back". The same model has been adopted for the next two weeks (from Monday 29th June) and parents of those students already attending have been written to separately. As per my last letter, should you change your mind regarding your son/daughter wishing to attend school, please register your interest using the following email address:

Unfortunately, we are not able to have any "physical transition" for those Year 6 students joining us in September nor are we able to host our usual Year 12 Induction Day. As a result, information will follow shortly for those Year 6/11 students/families to help with the process and in all likelihood, we will start the new academic year in phases to allow us to support students across these and other year groups more fully once they return. Again, as I have mentioned, I will write again once I am able to confirm plans.

Only this week, the department for Education have confirmed that "schools will not continue to offer key worker and vulnerable student provision over the summer" therefore, our last day of term (Thursday 16th July) will be that last day where students will be on site, regardless of which group they are in, until September.

Finally, thank you for your continued patience and messages of support. Although we know that the virus will be with us for some time, I look forward to September in the hope that we can return to what is as close to normal as is possible.

Yours sincerely

Michael Ferry
Headteacher

Stay Alert
Control the Virus
Save Lives