ASHLYNS SCHOOL



22 May 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope that you are all safe and well and, despite the challenges, you are managing and thriving - whether you are still working at home or getting back into the routine of travelling to work once again.

I wanted to take this opportunity to update you on our planning for the provision of some face-to-face contact with students in Years 10 and 12, during the second half of the summer term. The government's intention is that this will be in addition to the remote learning they will continue to receive, in what has become their normal way of working this term.

It is important to note that all plans to return to school, even on this limited basis, are subject to the government being satisfied that it has met its five tests. I'm mindful that we will only be made aware of this on the evening of the 28 May 2020, at the end of the half-term break. As I write, we are still awaiting the guidance for secondary schools due to be published by the Department for Education. When I receive this, I will update you and, alongside staff, governors and the professional associations, use it to inform our risk assessment planning. As part of this process, I will ask you to complete a short survey to help inform and support our preparation for face to face sessions with students in Years 10 and 12.

Most importantly, it is essential we have the time and information to make arrangements which make a return as safe as possible. In summary this will include the following:

- Review of the government's guidance for secondary schools when this is received
- Consult/survey parents, staff, governors and professional associations
- Further review and update of our risk assessments
- Finalisation of our return plan and communication to parents

Children of critical key workers and other vulnerable groups will continue to be able to attend school, as they have been over the past weeks, booking their place using the procedure published in the T-Bulletin. I should also point out that it has been made clear by the government that

Chesham Road, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire HP4 3AH T: 01442 863605 E: admin@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk www.ashlyns.herts.sch.uk

Head Teacher: James Shapland BSc, MSc

parents of children in Year 10 and Year 12 will not be fined for non-attendance during this period; however, all children who are eligible for face-to-face support are encouraged to attend.

On which note, I would like to reiterate how much I'm looking forward to seeing your children back in school - even on such a limited basis - as soon as we are able to.

Finally, I would once again like to thank you all for your continued support and wish you all an enjoyable bank holiday weekend.

Yours sincerely

James Shapland Headteacher