



# Tomlinscote School

14<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

You, like us, will have heard for the first time from the Prime Minister about the possible next steps that will be taken to move the country forward from 'lockdown'.

In the DfE guidance which followed the Prime Minister's speech, it talked of offering "some face-to-face support to supplement the remote education of Year 10 students who are due to take key exams next year". As yet, we have no more information than you do about the way in which this face-to-face support may be offered. As soon as we receive further information from the Department for Education, we will be back in touch with you to share our plans in accordance with that guidance.

We are currently planning for the following:

- Students in Years 7, 8 and 9 being unlikely to return to school this term.
- Students in Year 10 to return at some point for face-to-face support.
- Continued in-school provision for the children of key workers, those with EHCPs and others who fall into various "vulnerable" categories. We will be open for the Half Term holiday.
- Working with our primary feeder schools to ensure that the Year 6 transition is as smooth as possible.

## **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2020 (Inset Day)**

Please note that 22<sup>nd</sup> May will no longer be an Inset Day and it will be a normal home learning day.

## **Year 10 Careers Week – week beginning 1<sup>st</sup> June**

The Year 10 Work Experience Week was cancelled but we would like to introduce an alternative Careers focussed week for Year 10 students. This week will take place in the first week after Half Term. It will involve a number of careers-related tasks to be completed by students. One such activity is an Interview Skills course through Eton College. Students will complete a final project at the end of the week and no lesson-based work will be set for that week. Dr Hammond will send out a letter and video to Year 10 parents and students next week.

## **Year 9 – week beginning 1<sup>st</sup> June**

Year 9 students will have a new timetable after Half Term and will start their GCSE option subjects.

(continued)

## Home learning support

We know that the majority of our students are engaging happily with the work and uploading activities after every timetabled lesson. It has been really pleasing to see so many great pieces of work and the amount of hard work many students have shown.

However, some students are choosing not to and some of you are finding it difficult to get them to do so. Whilst some students' personal circumstances make it really difficult, there are others who have no excuse. Either way, please get in touch with your child's Head of Year if this applies to your son or daughter and we will offer further guidance and support to ensure that they don't fall further behind.

Year 7 – Ms Bennett ([rbennett@tomlinscoteschool.com](mailto:rbennett@tomlinscoteschool.com))

Year 8 – Mr Young ([syoung@tomlinscoteschool.com](mailto:syoung@tomlinscoteschool.com))

Year 9 – Mr Foley ([lfoley@tomlinscoteschool.com](mailto:lfoley@tomlinscoteschool.com))

Year 10 – Mr Henry ([pherry@tomlinscoteschool.com](mailto:pherry@tomlinscoteschool.com)). After half term Mrs Ellis ([hellis@tomlinscoteschool.com](mailto:hellis@tomlinscoteschool.com)) returns fully from her maternity leave and she will also be a Head of Year 10. Together with Mr Henry, they will be joint Heads of Year. This will provide a very strong leadership team to manage the challenges ahead with ensuring the year group stay on track for GCSEs in 2021.

## New exercise books

A number of students are running out of room in their books and require new ones. The students can work on paper and keep it organised or they can collect a new book from school. There will be a table by the entrance to the main hall with new exercise books. Students can collect new ones and then leave straight away without any contact at all. The table will be outside between 9am and 3pm every day.

Your continued support at this time of unprecedented challenge is much appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Major  
Principal