

16th July 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we approach the final school day of the academic year, we are naturally reflecting on the last 4 months when the school has not been physically open to all students. This has been incredibly challenging for students, parents/carers and staff as we all had to adjust to a new way of learning overnight.

We have been immensely proud of our students over the last few months, many of whom have needed to develop lifelong skills such as resilience, adaptability and independence in learning. We know this has not been an easy journey, with many anxieties and worries along the way, but thankfully we can now start to see the light at the end of the tunnel.

Thank you for your continued support throughout this period. We have enjoyed our daily contact with all of our families and hope you have found these daily calls supportive as we have navigated our way together through these unprecedented times.

It has been fantastic to welcome back nearly every single student this Summer term for 1:1 learning with subject staff in English, Maths and Science, or as children of key workers, and the new health and safety measures on site have given students the confidence to return to school in September.

Academic Year 2020/21

On Thursday 2nd July it was announced that all schools will open for all year groups in September. This news was extremely well received by all staff at the Beacon of Light School and we are very much looking forward to welcoming all our students back to school in September. We have really missed our students and school has not been the same without them all in the building.

With the announcement that schools could open came a publication of 35 pages of guidance that all schools have to follow to manage the risks of transmission within the school environment. This publication is extensive and has significant implications for all schools.

We are passionate about continuing to deliver our broad, balanced and ambitious curriculum, and maintaining our school ethos, however, this must be done with a series of measures that are needed to ensure the safety of your children, and our staff so we can reduce the risk of transmission.

Therefore, we will have to make a number of changes to how the school operates from September. An information sheet on these changes and what they mean for your child is attached to this letter. Please share this information with them.

Staggered start to Autumn term

To re-introduce students into the school environment safely, and 'walk' them through the changes on site, we will need to stagger the start of term across three days. The staggered start is as follows:

Tuesday 1st September	PD Day- staff will receive training on new procedures and measures
Wednesday 2nd September	8.40-8.50am Year 11 ONLY Enter via main reception
Thursday 3 rd September	8.40-8.50am Year 11 – enter via main reception 8.50-9.00am Year 10 – enter via rear door 9.00-9.10am Year 9 – enter via rear door
Friday 4 th September	8.40-8.50am Year 11 – enter via main reception 8.50-9.00am Year 10 – enter via rear door 9.00-9.10am Year 9 – enter via rear door

Further details on plans for the new academic year may need to be issued over the summer holidays, if any government advice on COVID-19 measures change.

We are very much looking forward to working with our students, and their families, in September, supporting them in a return to full-time school.

If you require any support or advice during Summer, our senior leadership team contact details are below:

denise.taylor@beaconschool.org.uk
lindsay.howells@beaconschool.org.uk
ashleigh.fielding@beaconschool.org.uk

Please have a great, and very well-deserved, Summer break.

Yours sincerely



Denise Taylor
Principal