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10 June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers of Year 10

Thank you very much for ensuring your children either attended their 1 to 1 meetings last week or communicated via email/teams. We checked how Year 10 are coping, answered questions about a return to some time in school and discussed current option choices.

Year 10 will be returning to school from Monday, 15 June 2020 for some support with their remote learning. This letter outlines the arrangements for this and measures we have put in place to reduce risk. It also seeks to answer any questions you have asked in response to the survey we sent you.

Mr Bryce's assembly this week includes a walk-through of arrangements for Year 10 arriving in school on their allocated days and their classrooms and seating. Please watch this with your child.

### Option Choices

At Park, all students take the following GCSEs at the end of Year 11:

English Language, English Literature, Maths (plus Statistics for some), Science, Additional Science, RE and PE. Some students have already completed Catering and Apex.

Students normally then have three additional options. We will not be able to give these the time that they need on the timetable next year and therefore have asked students to select the two they are most keen to continue studying. These will now be the lessons they have on their timetable.

The decision to reduce options taken has been made because we believe this is how we can best ensure students receive strong teaching and coverage of their subjects to secure the best grades for them at GCSE.

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Success for All through Attainment, Resilience and Autonomy

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We study a broad range of courses at Park, most students will still leave with at least nine GCSEs or equivalents. In addition, any student who wishes to sit the exam for an option they no longer have on their timetable will be able to do so providing they are able to work towards this outside of time in school. Teachers are keen to support with this too. Some you have requested this. Psychology continues as an after-school group.

Your child's choices are included with their timetable towards the end of this letter. Please discuss this with them and let us know by Tuesday, 16 June if you have any questions or concerns. We will do our best to resolve these.

### **Return to School**

Year 10 will attend school in small groups for two half days each week where they will receive lessons for their subjects which will support their remote learning.

However, the increase in time will be staggered, so that week beginning Monday, 15 June they will only complete a morning session and from week beginning Monday, 22 June students will attend a morning and afternoon session on the same day.

The two half days will consist of:

- A morning of English, maths and science from 9.00am until 11.30am
- An afternoon of option lead lessons which will run from 1.00pm until 2.30pm

### **Groupings and Staffing**

We are using our large learning areas for the Year 10 groups. Students will work in a group of about 15 in a large learning area with socially distanced desks. They will be allocated a group of teachers who will work with them. They may not be your child's usual teachers. There will be two of these groups in school on each day. The students in each day will not change.

### **Safety guidance**

Students will wash their hands at the start of their session and will not change desks during the session. Social distancing guidelines must be followed at all times.

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The large spaces will be cleaned before and after the students' sessions. Doors are kept open to ensure air flow.

If your child is displaying any symptoms of Covid, they **MUST NOT** come into school. They must self-isolate for 7 days and you should arrange for a test to be taken

### **Entry and exit points to school**

Students will enter and leave the school site through the gate by the Dickinson Centre and use the gate nearest the Science block to get to their classroom. They will be met by staff who will show them their route up to Yellowstone classrooms. Toilet facilities are available there.

Start and finish times are deliberately different to those students who attend our Key Worker provision. This means Year 10 will not socialise with other students. It does mean punctuality is important. Students should arrive between 8.50am and 8.55am for the morning session and 12.50pm and 12.55pm for the afternoon session. Students who are late may not be admitted.

### **Arrangements for lunch and breaks**

During the morning session, students will have a break and a free snack. This will be served from our catering trailer which will be situated by the Science block. Lunch will not be provided. Students will go home between 11.30am and 1.00pm. Free School Meal vouchers, for those entitled to them, will continue to be issued each week. Students may not remain on the school site during this time. This is to ensure we can maintain our Key Worker provision.

### **Uniform and equipment**

Students need to wear their school uniform. They do not need to wear a blazer and can choose to wear a school summer polo shirt if they have one. All other items of school uniform remain unchanged. If a top is required over a school top then this must be a blazer.

Students must bring their remote learning to school each week as they will work on that in lessons with teachers and then take it home again to continue their learning. We will issue students with an exercise book and work booklets for subjects.

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### **Behaviour**

We look forward to welcoming Year 10 back to focus on their learning with support and direct teaching. We expect students to work hard and behave respectfully and safely at all times. If any student is unable or unwilling to do this they will be asked to remain at home.

### **Travel to school**

Most of our students walk or cycle to school. Please ensure your child follows social distancing guidance on these journeys. If your child travels on public transport please follow government advice regarding a face covering.

If your child is usually driven to school, they can be dropped off in the usual place, please do not drive into the staff carpark. Parents must not come onto the school site. Please email or ring if you need us.

Finally, please be aware that if Government guidelines change, we may have to amend or cancel these arrangements.

I appreciate that this is a long letter. I hope it answers any questions you have and reassures you that we are well prepared for Year 10 students' partial return. We are looking forward to having them in school.

Yours faithfully

Ella Capaldi  
Head of School