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27th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following the Government's announcement about the phased reopening of schools, we are delighted to be able to say that we will be welcoming Year 10 students back to Woodside from Monday 15th June on a part-time timetable. Year 10 students have been chosen by the Government as the year group to begin the phased reopening of secondary schools as they will be taking their formal examinations soon. As yet, we do not know what the guidance will be about reopening secondary schools to other year groups.

From Monday 15th June, Year 10 students will be welcomed back in groups to Woodside to take part in face to face learning with their teachers. Students in Year 10 will be asked to attend one day per week until the summer holidays. Students' timetables will be slightly modified as will the times of the school day. There will be a focus on ensuring students are ready to start Year 11 and are up to date with their GCSE courses. The same expectations around uniform, punctuality and behaviour remain and students must come to school in their full school uniform. We will send a separate letter as soon as possible giving more details as to which day Year 10 students should be in school and the timings of the school day.

We will still be open to vulnerable students and students of essential worker families, who will continue their school learning as they have done for the past 10 weeks. This will be separate from the provision Year 10 students will be taking part in.

We know that families are worried about this next stage. We have assessed how we can minimise risks to students and staff, and will be restricting groups to no more than 15 students at a time in a class. We have had a heightened programme of cleaning and safety protocols in place whilst we have been open to children of essential workers and no child or member of staff has become sick during that time of COVID-19. We hope this will continue, and we will remain vigilant as the wellbeing of everyone at Woodside is our key priority.

We are also aware that there have been some messages in the media saying that parents/carers who wish their children to return to school are risking the wellbeing of staff. Please let us reassure you that we do not think that. Please do not feel you cannot send your child to school if that is your concern. We understand that some families will take a personal decision not to send their child to school based on a range of different reasons – underlying health conditions, for example, and as a school, we understand that choice. We will continue to send work to students across all year groups that can be completed at home and nobody will be penalised if their child does not attend school during this time.

We will continue applying for and sending the Government vouchers for Free School Meals to families in all year groups, including Year 10. We will also continue to support our families with



Head Teacher: Ms Gerry Robinson

Anti-Bullying

Alliance



deliveries of food and essential items. Students attending school will be able to get a snack at break time and a meal at lunchtime as they always have been.

We will send families a letter home detailing exactly what day Year 10 students should be in school and what their timetable will look like as soon as possible. In the meantime, we advise students to continue with their home learning as set out in the task grid.

As always, please feel free to contact the school if you have any concerns. We thank you in advance for your continued support, which we are hugely grateful for.

Yours sincerely,

Cr. Robinson

Gerry Robinson Head Teacher