



05 June 2020
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ST JOHN'S MARLBOROUGH – COVID 19

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to the final term of this academic year. As always, I hope that you have been keeping well and that the gradual easing of the lockdown principles has made life a little easier.

Following the publication of the Government's guidance on allowing small groups of students in Year 10 and 12 back into school from 15th June 2020, we have been working hard to ensure we are well prepared for students in these year groups to attend school for some time during the remainder of the term. Plans are almost complete and parents, carers and students will be able to access the following within the next few days:

- Clear protocols and expectations for all students returning and this will include an online presentation link and guide so that everyone can see how the site is now operating. This will be particularly important for students and their parents and carers who may have anxieties about what to expect. All of these will be covered extensively in Risk Assessments and the expectations received from Excalibur Academies Trust.
- We will be running a series of assemblies and information points next week which will be available to all students, and this will supplement the information we provide via letter and the school website. Parents and carers will also be able to have access to these as they will also be held on the school website.
- The commitment to providing online learning for everyone remains, and we will be working hard to ensure that the face to face provision for Year 10 and 12 is in addition to what we are providing for all other students.

The logistics of preparing the school to be ready to welcome more staff and students back are significant and we know that reassurance here is key. A great deal has been implemented and the whole site has now adopted a one-way system and we have 79 hand sanitizer units, which feature in communal walkways and areas as well as in designated rooms. Classrooms and teaching areas themselves have been very carefully prepared to ensure distancing conforms with the Government guidance. This has been an extensive project and the premises team have been flat out working on it; their efforts need to be acknowledged publicly. Signage for personal safety is significant and expectations around the use of all facilities will be extremely clear. So will the expectation that everyone conforms, without any exceptions. It will all feel different, but it will all be very safe and calm so please don't worry.

Free School Meals

We are aware that for many of our families, financial circumstances may have changed during the period of the lock down. If you think that your children may now be entitled to Free School Meals and would like to check your eligibility please contact Mrs Shirley Woodburn SWoodburn@stjohns.excalibur.org.uk who will be pleased to advise you. For any questions about Pupil Premium support please contact Mrs Lucy Chaston LChaston@stjohns.excalibur.org.uk



Counselling

Our Academy counsellor Mrs Rona Muller will be available Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday between 9.00am and 2.00pm. If you or your child would like to make an appointment to speak to her about any worries or concerns she can be contacted by emailing, RMuller@stjohns.excalibur.org.uk

Please do continue to stay engaged with us and we appreciate hearing from you through the covid-19@stjohns.excalibur.org.uk email. We also continue to keep up to date our dedicated area on the school website which can be found at: <https://www.stjohns.excalibur.org.uk/latest-covid-19-information/>. The Twitter feed and the extensive school newsletter also continue to be a very useful way of staying in touch with what St John's are doing in the community, so please follow them and re-tweet if you would like to.

I will be in touch again in the next few days specifically for parents and carers of students in Year 10 and 12 and I would very much like to thank you for your support over what has been a trying time for many. As we move towards the next phase, please be assured that we are excited and see real hope around the corner for our students and families.

With kindest regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ian Tucker', written in a cursive style.

Ian Tucker
Principal