



SST/ARA

22<sup>nd</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We do hope that you and your family are well at this difficult time for us all.

We are writing to you as Executive Principal and Principal of Brooke Weston Academy to keep you informed of our commitment to educate your child in as safe an environment as possible and to advise you of our current proposals for the summer term. As you may be aware, the Government announced specific plans for the return to school of some primary aged children. However, their announcement for secondary aged children was 'we expect that secondary schools will be able to offer some face to face contact with year 10 and year 12 pupils. This will not be a return to full timetables or pupils back in school full time, rather some support to supplement pupils' remote education.' There was no information regarding other year groups. The Government further announced that they will make the final decision on whether to press ahead with the reopening of schools when they review the latest science on May 28<sup>th</sup> 2020.

We would like to reassure you and your son/daughter that we are working on plans which we believe are more ambitious than this, for all year groups. As you would expect, the safety of our children, their families and our staff is our first priority. Therefore, we have been working diligently to consider how best to do this and we are in the process, as a Trust, of carrying out extensive risk assessments. Once these have been concluded, and the Government have made the 28<sup>th</sup> May 2020 announcement, the Principal will write to you again with much more detailed information. We know you understand that our planning may change in light of the Government announcement and ask you to please bear with us.

Our current plans include:

### **Years 7-9**

A refreshed and fully mapped curriculum offer which involves some teacher interaction with students via Microsoft Teams and the use of online learning resources. Students will be set assignments and will receive teacher feedback on those assignments. This provision will be available online by 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020 as staff need to prepare after the training day on the 26<sup>th</sup> May 2020. We are aware that not all students have access to computers at home, and if this is the case please contact [CurriculumSupport@brookeweston.org](mailto:CurriculumSupport@brookeweston.org) so that we can find a way to support you where possible.

To further help us understand your digital devices and student access to Teams, could we ask that you please complete the following survey: <https://bit.ly/BWT-Digital-Device>.

This Term we are also going to increase student engagement, and this will include contact from the student care team, tutors, attendance to online tutor time, Teams wellbeing checks and curriculum contact to support students not working or submitting assignments.

### **Year 10 and year 12 students**

We are pleased to advise you that we currently anticipate being able to return to teaching both year groups in school for some part of the school week, subject to the outcome of risk assessments and the Government announcement. There is of course the added complication of transport to be considered, and we are working on this with Rogers, but would appreciate your feedback in the survey later in this letter. We encourage parents and carers to think very carefully about what is right for their own child if we are able to provide this opportunity to attend in June.

If we are unable to deliver lessons in school due to circumstances beyond our control, we do have plans for extended online provision similar to KS3 and the further development of online teaching.

The process currently consists of:

1. Fortnight commencing 1<sup>st</sup> June – A series of broadcasts and/or meetings via Microsoft Teams by the Principal and members of the senior leadership team covering student welfare, preparation for the return to school, explanations of what school will look like, the school experience for our students and our behaviour expectations of students. We will also outline our learning plan and the commitment we expect of students during these sessions. You are very welcome to join your son/daughter for these sessions and a timetable will be issued once we have final guidance and arrangements confirmed. If you or your son/daughter would like to receive additional reassurance after watching the broadcasts, it will be possible to request a follow up virtual meeting with the Year 10 and 12 leads.

Year 10 – Mrs Fernando [rfernando@brookeweston.org](mailto:rfernando@brookeweston.org)

Year 12 – Mrs Brennan [cbrennan@brookeweston.org](mailto:cbrennan@brookeweston.org)

2. Week commencing 8<sup>th</sup> June – Some preliminary work assessing gaps in student knowledge and confidence to inform appropriate learning structures.
3. Week commencing 15<sup>th</sup> June – We expect that some teaching of our Year 10 core academic GCSE subjects and most Year 12 courses to start in school. It is important to note that the timings of the school day are likely to be different, and although we are still planning the final arrangements, currently students will start at 9:00 and finish approximately 14:30. It is also expected that sessions will only supplement online learning and the full curriculum, teaching and assignments will continue to remain online.

To help us plan therefore, and ensure we understand staffing implications, we are asking that all Year 10 and 12 parents please complete the following survey: <https://bit.ly/36lhPBi>.

Whilst writing this letter, the Government issued further guidance on 21<sup>st</sup> May, and can be accessed using the link below. We are confident our plans exceed the ambition laid out by the Government in the sections for Year 7 to 9 and Year 10 students, and we look forward to sharing these with you as soon as we can. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/help-secondary-school-children-continue-their-education-during-coronavirus-covid-19>.

We would like to thank you and your family for the continued support you have shown the school. We understand that attendance at school may be a very difficult decision for some parents to make, and we will respect and support your decision. We are looking forward to welcoming your child back to school as soon as it is right to do so.

Please do not hesitate to contact [CurriculumSupport@brookeweston.org](mailto:CurriculumSupport@brookeweston.org) should you have any questions.

Yours sincerely



Anne Hill  
Executive Principal



Shaun Strydom  
Associate Principal