



Waddesdon C of E School | Coronavirus Newsletter 12 – 29/06/20

This week marks the 3rd week of teaching for Year 10 and the 2nd week for Year 12.

Our thorough risk assessment has enabled us to provide lessons in English, Maths, Science and PE for Year 10, attended by approximately 75% of the year group from Monday to Thursday. This week, students are also being taught RS and continue with the History, Art and Product Design lessons that they started last Friday. There are plans to widen this provision to include GCSE Food on the 10th July and PE Theory on the 17th.



Sixth Form students (like the ones pictured here attending the pre-lesson safety briefing) are receiving tailored teaching in all of their subjects between now and the end of term.

We also welcome our new Year 7 students in the week of 6th July when Year 10 will have a consolidation week at home.

I mention our on-site teaching for three reasons: to thank the students for their adherence to the new (and at times rather strange) routines; to thank the teachers publicly who are working in school with the students, in addition to covering their lessons on Show My Homework; and finally to point towards what we can achieve for September.

In this edition of the newsletter, I outline our scenario planning for September. Although at the time of writing, we are still awaiting further government guidance (due this week), I want to provide you with our thinking for the new academic year and the steps that we are putting in place to enable this to happen.

Thank you, as ever, for your support. Your child’s form tutor and Head of Year are ready to help with any questions that you have.

Mr Abbott





September

A major plank of our September strategy will be to address any gaps that have occurred in learning for students in all years during the lockdown period of 14 weeks. Whatever students' home circumstances, aspects of learning will require over-teaching and consolidation. Teachers will focus on gaps in knowledge and notes for all year groups and are planning accordingly.

The three scenarios

We are likely to be faced by one of the three following scenarios in September:

- **Everyone is back at school**, apart from students and staff who are required to shield. Safety requirements and Government guidance in place.
- **School is partially open**, with a week-on, week-off rotation of lessons for Years 7-10 & 12, supplemented by consolidation and reinforcement work. Weekly lessons for Years 11 and 13. Same principles as above for shielding and safety.
- **There is a second wave** and school remains shut. An assigned quota of 'live' lessons via Microsoft Teams, with the remainder of lessons delivered via SMHW.

If almost all students are back at school (scenario 1), then we judge that the first half term would be sufficient for catch up and consolidation for the majority of students. Additional catch up needs will be evaluated (and provided) through on-going assessment.

If there is a partial re-opening (scenario 2), there would be a blend of consolidation and assessment in school, supported by further practice at home.

Finally, if there is a second wave, or the school is required to close for any other reason (scenario 3), then we would operate a 'catch-up' curriculum, to ensure that the key elements of learning in each subject area are embedded. Assessment of understanding would complement the 'live' lessons at home.

A separate programme of support will be provided for shielding students for scenarios 1 and 2, in accordance with Government advice. These students will most probably receive an element of additional tutoring during this time.

Between now and the end of term, we will continue to prioritise teaching for the students in school. We are starting our 12th week of supervision and support for the children of Key Workers and those deemed 'vulnerable'. Teachers are rota-ed into different days a week to support these students. Priority will continue to be given to Years 10 and 12 as they are closest to their important external exams.



Exams in 2021

The government plans to consult on the delaying of exam season 2021. Education Secretary, Gavin Williamson, told MPs last week that the government would be “consulting with Ofqual about how we can move those exams [in 2021] back” to maximise teaching time.

The news comes amid growing pressure on ministers to reveal their plans to make next year’s exams run smoothly.

An Ofqual spokesperson said: “We recognise students expecting to take exams next year, and their parents and teachers, are concerned about the disruption to teaching and learning caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

“We are working closely with the DfE, exam boards and groups representing teachers, schools, colleges and students, to carefully consider a range of possible measures. We are planning to publish for consultation, before the end of term, our proposals for 2021.”



Reporting to Parents

During the past week, teachers have completed report writing for the 750 students in Years 7-10 and 12. In the case of Year 10 and Year 12, each student will receive a separate subject report. Reports for Years 7-9 will include form tutor comments.



Safeguarding contacts/ guidance

Mr Sturla is our Designated Safeguarding Lead, supported by Miss McIver and Mrs Branton as Additional Safeguarding Leads.

- If there is immediate risk of harm to a child, call the Police on 999
- You can call Buckinghamshire County Council’s First Response Team on 01296 383962 (out of hours: 0800 999 7677). They will listen to your concerns and decide on the appropriate course of action.

You can contact the NSPCC on 0808 800 5000 (free service, lines open 24 hours a day). They will listen to your concerns, offer advice and support and can take action on your behalf if a child is in danger. You can also report concerns anonymously. For further information or to report your concerns online visit:
www.nspcc.org.uk/what-you-can-do/report-abuse/

Inter-form Results



Congratulations to everyone who was involved in Inter-form last week.

As Miss Smith said in her wonderful assembly on Tuesday, the total distance covered over the week would have enabled us to travel to the Olympic Stadium in Tokyo and still have some kilometres to spare!

An impressive result, with some eye-watering individual distances.

Thank you to everyone who took part and particularly to Miss Smith for organising this life-enhancing event.

'There are three kinds of people in the world today.

There are "well-poisoners", who discourage you and stomp on your creativity and tell you what you can't do.

There are "lawn mowers", people who are well-intentioned but self-absorbed; they tend to their own needs, mow their own lawns, and never leave their yards to help another person.

Finally, there are "life-enhancers", people who reach out to enrich the lives of others, to lift them up and inspire them.

We need to be life-enhancers, and we need to surround ourselves with life-enhancers.'

Walt Disney



Website:
www.waddesdonschool.com



Contact:
01296 651382



Email:
office@waddesdonschool.com
Senco@waddesdonschool.com