

Ref: RV/hw

10 July 2020

Dear Parents

I am delighted to announce and congratulate our 2020/21 Senior Prefect Team:

Sam Chadwick – Head Boy	Eve Bibby – Head Girl
Paul Smith – Deputy Head Boy	Ruby Stannard – Deputy Head Girl
Kian Ismael – Senior Prefect	Amber Quadri – Senior Prefect
Jacob Wheeldon – Senior Prefect	Elise O’Brien – Senior Prefect
Owen Whittaker – Senior Prefect	Chloe Quigley – Senior Prefect
Adam Bowden – Senior Prefect	Charlotte Brelsford – Senior Prefect

I’m sure that they will serve our community well.

### **Plans for September 2020**

Regarding our September return; senior staff have worked up several models within a very short space of time and I’ve listened intently to what many other schools are planning. We have consulted with Governors and the Romero Catholic Academy Trust regarding our considerations and current possible models. The most important thing to say is that we will try not rush in to anything.

It seems likely that balancing minimising contact with providing a broad and ambitious curriculum, will mean we will have to implement several short term changes to our curriculum, teaching and procedures for September. We may have to adapt such things as lunchtime, break, forms, sets, entrances and the use of some rooms etc. as a consequence of trying to reduce movement around the school and contact between year groups.

However, the situation is fluid. There won’t be absolute confirmation of Government guidance until August 11<sup>th</sup> following a Government review of the Coronavirus situation nationally. Therefore, whilst we are planning intensively now, we will not make a final decision on exactly what our ultimate plans will be until after that date, when we will have a clearer update of the Coronavirus. This could again impact on our plans for September. **All we can say for definite is that we are planning for a full return for all pupils in September** and it is likely that the need for minimising contact will have some impact on our normal curriculum and procedures.

I will write to you again after August 11<sup>th</sup> regarding our opening plan.

### **Transport for September 2020**

In order to understand school transport needs for September 2020 we are working with the county council to try and manage demand in very difficult circumstances. Please can you complete the following survey by **Wednesday 15 July 2020** to enable us to do this. We realise this is a short time frame but this information is urgently needed. If you have more than one child at school then the questions will need to be completed for each child.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=xfsmUvH8MU6AWufP-sj0KrPDofD3s91Apo8femkRNzVUN0NXVTyzSDVUSvdFOFJVOFVBUVNB1IOUC4u>

### **Year 7**

We shall be emailing out reports to Year 7 Parents this week. We hope that you find the comments and targets very helpful, as your child completes their first year at High School under such challenging circumstances. If you do have any queries or concerns please contact your child’s Form Tutor in the first instance and they can then direct you to the most appropriate member of staff.

### **Year 8**

Pupils in Year 8 will find out about their mini options in: DT, Performing Arts and Languages this week.

Look out for details on Show My Homework!

### **Year 10**

Ofqual recently published their proposals for some small changes to GCSE Assessment in 2021. Their suggestions recognise the unique challenges that the current Year 10 pupils will face in preparing for their examinations next summer. If parents or pupils want to comment upon the proposals, you have until 16 July 2021 to respond to Ofqual's online questionnaire. Here is the link to the full document. We have also written to you about these ideas so do look out for our letter amongst your emails.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/proposed-changes-to-the-assessment-of-gcses-as-and-a-levels-in-2021>

### **Year 11**

We have written to Year 11 parents this week with further updates about examination results in 2020. The newest guidance concerns decisions about the autumn series of resits. Please look out for the letter amongst your emails.

### **Free School Meal vouchers**

For those pupils who are eligible for Free School Meal vouchers, you will have received an email regarding a letter with details of the summer fund.

### **Todmorden BT1 Bus**

Although Calderdale Council are no longer providing this service, we have secured a contract with the bus company and from 1 September 2020, the service will run as normal. The bus company have informed us that there are no Metro cards accepted on this service. The only ticket options are a £14.00 a week ticket or £1.60 single. They can be bought on the bus with cash or card. Alternatively, they can be purchased on the First Bus App. Calderdale will still supply free passes for those pupils who are entitled to these.

These can be obtained using the below link: <https://www.calderdale.gov.uk/v2/residents/education-and-learning/schools/home-school-transport>

A reminder that school finishes on Thursday 16 July 2020 at 3.05pm for the summer holidays. Thank you for your continuing support and patience over the last few months. It has been so lovely to see all of our Year 10s for Phase 2 and Phase 3 learning this week. I am very proud of the way our school and you as parents have supported our children during lockdown. I will write to you again next week as we break up. I hope your family stay safe and well. Have a good weekend.

Yours sincerely



Richard Varey  
Headteacher