



3<sup>rd</sup> July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

The news this week, and especially yesterday, focused heavily on the plans for schools to welcome all children and young people back to College in September 2020.

It is the Government's plan that all children and young people, in all year groups, will return to College full time from the beginning of the autumn term.

The guidelines have come to us in two forms: firstly a lengthy document from the DfE outlining how schools could operate and secondly a consultation from Ofqual (who run the exams system for the UK) about what changes might need to be made to exams for summer 2021. The DfE has produced a brief guide for parents, which can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-in-the-autumn-term>

The details are wide ranging and complex and will require a lot of additional planning at College before we know how we might be operating in September, but my colleagues and I are relieved that at last we can at least begin the planning process for September and wholeheartedly share the Government's aspiration to welcome back all our students in September 2020.

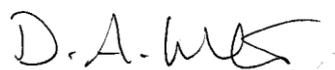
The guidance does bring some clarity to key issues, such as what social distancing actually means in schools and colleges.

- It gives emphasis to a broad and balanced curriculum for every child, not, as some of the media reports mentioned, a narrowed-down version.
- It also recognises that leaders will need flexibility around what works in their own contexts, rather than trying to over-prescribe certain approaches.

We will, of course, communicate with you all, with as much notice as is possible about our plans, and certainly hope to have some clear outlines for you all by the end of this term. I fully appreciate at this time that you may have many questions, some of which we may not be able to fully answer at this point in time. Please do read the guide for parents on the link provided.

I hope that you and your families remain safe and well.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D.A. White". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D" and a stylized "A".

Dawn White  
Principal