



### **Important Update – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May**

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to provide a brief update regarding how we are welcoming some Year groups back to school based learning after half term **and what this means for your child who is not in the returning year groups.**

#### **Summary**

- We will be opening our school for Years 10 & 12 from Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June.
- The government will review whether or not other Year groups may be able to safely return to school in July. However, this will be determined by the national rate of infection and details have not yet been confirmed.

#### **Distance Learning**

**All students not returning to school must stay at home and continue to engage with their distance learning.**

Due to the need to use staff to provide school based learning for some Year groups there will be some changes in how we are able to support students with their distance learning and a new timetable will be sent to you in due course.

For Year 11 and 13, we will be continuing to support them through Term 6 by providing PSHEE style work and supporting Year 11's as they transition into Year 12.

I have been delighted with the amount of positive engagement we have had from our students and this experience has allowed us to develop our digital learning as a school. Each day our teachers are telling me about something new or exciting that their classes are doing.

#### **Child care provision for children of Key Workers and vulnerable students**

For the children of Key Workers and vulnerable students requiring childcare, parents should continue to provide **24 hours' notice** of their intention to use this provision. Please contact Main Reception or email [office@goodwinacademy.org.uk](mailto:office@goodwinacademy.org.uk) if you wish your child to use this provision. Please note that this provision will now be capped at 25 students with priority given to vulnerable students and then those children of key workers.

#### **How child care provision will work in our schools**

- Students should arrive at 8.30am and use the Main Entrance to the school.

- Students will be provided with a white wristband that they must wear at all times when in school so that we can keep different groups of students separated to maintain social distancing arrangements. A new band will be given each day.
- Students will be expected to engage with the distance learning set for their year group.
- Child care will close at 2.45pm and students will leave via the Main Entrance.

### **Free School Meals**

If your child is entitled to receive free school meals vouchers you will continue to receive the voucher scheme until further notice.

### **Ways to remotely engage with your school**

Whilst your child is remote learning, we would encourage them to actively participate in digital activities to engage with their class. This is a great way to build their online skills, meet with friends and speak to teachers. We currently run a number of activities that Heads of Years and Heads of Subjects have been promoting with students.

### **Looking after your Well-being at home**

This week is Mental Health Awareness week, and now more than ever it is important to take time to look after yourself and your families. We are all experiencing disrupted routines and restricted freedoms, so having your children learning from home is bound to add extra pressure. We have a toolkit of well-being resources and activities, that can be found at <https://www.tsatrust.org.uk/about/coronavirus/health-safety-wellbeing/>

### **Exams & Results**

This pandemic has had a significant impact on many factors of the education system including exams. As you will be aware, students who were due to sit GCSEs and A Levels have had their exams cancelled.

These moments are a big step in a child's school journey and across Term 6 we will be looking at different ways to celebrate all our students and their hard work, regardless if they return to school or not.

We will provide details later in Term 6 about how students will receive their GCSE and A Level results this August.

### **What does School look like for the students that are returning?**

As you may have seen in my previous updates, we have put plans in place to welcome back Years 10 & 12 to Goodwin Academy.

In order to do this safely we have introduced new measures such as; Family Bubbles, Bespoke Timetables and strict rules on isolation.



If you would like to see the details of what this means please check out the Coronavirus information page [www.tsatrust.org.uk/coronavirus](http://www.tsatrust.org.uk/coronavirus)

**Where to look for further information**

We have launched a dedicated website for information on our plans to return students safely to school.

The Thinking Schools Academy Trust is actively responding to ongoing developments with the Coronavirus outbreak and we will continue to update this page as the situation develops, adding in more information for your child's year group as, and when we have it.

**FAQs and information:** [www.tsatrust.org.uk/coronavirus](http://www.tsatrust.org.uk/coronavirus)

If you have any questions regarding provision for your child in Term 6 please contact your child's Head of Year which can be found at <https://www.goodwinacademy.org.uk/our-school/academy-life/form-tutors/>

Stay safe and well.

Yours sincerely

Mr S Smith  
Principal