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JM&JPH/BH

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Dear Parents & Carers

Firstly, we hope that all members of the school community are safe and well at this time. We are writing to you following recent announcements from the Government and subsequent guidance about school re-openings to provide you with an update as to our position as a school.

It is worth acknowledging initially that this is obviously an extremely challenging situation for the whole of our society and we must take on board directives, advice and guidance with an open mind while always considering the health, welfare and safety of our whole school community.

We are very proud of the work which our staff have done over recent weeks. Their commitment to supporting key worker families and also students who could be considered as vulnerable both in school and in the community has been nothing short of remarkable and we are very grateful to them. We are also proud of the way in which they have adjusted to delivering learning remotely while balancing the demands of their own lives during this challenging period.

We are equally proud of our students. The dignity of our Year 11 and year 13 students in dealing with the situation they have found themselves in has been so impressive and we will be looking to support each and everyone of them when the results come through in August to ensure that they can progress to their preferred destination for next year. We have also been so impressed by how our students in other year groups have adapted to remote learning and the commitment they have shown day after day to this new way of learning.

We would imagine that you are all now aware that students in Years 7, 8 and 9 will not be returning to school until September. We understand and share the frustration of this situation and a significant priority for the school after half-term will be continuing to develop our remote learning offer – anecdotal feedback indicates that the virtual video lessons have been an appreciated development - and putting further provision in place to support their mental health and wellbeing.

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In order to provide us with some information about your child's educational experience and wellbeing over the past weeks which we can use to support such developments we would appreciate it if you could complete the following survey:

<https://vle.wallingfordschool.com/mod/feedback/view.php?id=10695>

The survey is deliberately *light touch* and hopefully will not take you too long to complete. If you could complete it by 9am on Friday 22nd May that would be helpful and appreciated.

You will probably also have seen the announcement that students in Years 10 and 12 will have periods of time in school after half-term. We are continuing to receive advice and guidance as we consider what that might look like for students at Wallingford School and will write to parents and carers of students in those year groups separately later this week.

Please be assured that whatever plans there are for groups of students to return to school either in June, or indeed September, nothing will proceed until we are satisfied that all reasonable risk assessments, mitigations and procedures are in place to ensure the health and safety of everyone on the school site. There is a great deal of work going on around this currently and the Governing Body are actively involved in supporting this process. We will be writing to the parents and carers of any groups of students who return to school with details of new procedures so that both they and their children are aware of them before they return to school.

Thank you for your ongoing support at this time.

Yours faithfully,



John Marston
Headteacher



Jon Pebworth
Chair of Governors

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