



SEAHAM HIGH SCHOOL

Engaging minds, broadening horizons

Seaham High School
Station Road
Seaham
Co. Durham
SR7 0BH

01915161600

Head Teacher: Mr G.W Lumsdon

Deputy Head: Mrs A Carr
Deputy Head: Mr J.E Henderson

1st June 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

I trust you had a restful half term. Thank you for your patience while we have waited for further information on reopening schools – the government has now published more guidance, and a summary of what we know so far is below.

To recap, if the government thinks it is safe, they are asking secondary schools to consider re-opening from 15th June prioritising Year 10 pupils. The government are clear that, they are asking schools to re-open only if the school has the capacity to do so safely. The Government has asked that we “offer some face-to-face support to supplement the remote education of Year 10 students who are due to take key exams next year”.

To confirm then the school remains closed to children in Years’ 7, 8 and 9 unless the student is either one of the vulnerable groups identified by the Government or children of Key Workers. **Parents of Year 10 students will be contacted individually regarding our proposals to widen school opening to students in Year 10 from June 15th, later this week.** A further letter to Year 11 parents will also follow later.

At Seaham High School we are pleased with the on-line distance learning package we have put together and happy with student engagement and uptake. Given that your child will have been out of school for at least five months by September **it is essential they engage with what we are providing.** The danger of not doing so is that your child will end up further and further behind others in their class and year group who are engaging well. Please bear in mind that it is feasible that not all students will return full-time in September either.

In order to re-open we need to take some of the following considerations into account;

- Classroom size – How many children can be safely accommodated in each classroom
- Number of classrooms
- School population
- Parental demand
- Number of staff a school employs
- Number of staff self-isolating as they are in a vulnerable group
- Availability of cleaning products to meet the increased demand



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If it is safe for us to begin widening the numbers in school on June 15th precautions, we need to have in place are;

- Limiting group sizes
- Ensuring social distancing
- Staggering break times, and pick-up and drop-off times
- Increased cleaning
- Keeping pupils and staff with coronavirus symptoms at home

Please remember that in the meantime, the school is still open only for vulnerable pupils and the children of critical workers. This group continues to be the government's priority, and will remain so even if schools partially re-open on 15th June.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Mr G.W. Lumsdon
Head Teacher



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