

14th July 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

What a surreal end to the school year. At the start of lockdown (23rd March), I made it clear that if we were going to manage this awful virus as effectively as possible it wasn't about waiting for the storm to pass but learning how to dance in the rain. I am not sure we are quite ready for Strictly, but we have danced well! I have never felt as proud of our school community or indeed of our vision: everyone a leader, everyone a learner. Thank you to students and parents/carers for embracing remote learning systems; to our wonderful staff body for adapting without question to anything that has been asked of them; to the governing body for their trust, support and challenge (where appropriate) to help the leadership team to navigate the school through such unprecedented times.

As we break for the Summer at 2.40pm on Friday 17th July, this week (week 17) will be the final time this academic year we offer onsite provision for the children of key workers and students considered vulnerable. Our remote learning platforms will also scale down as of Monday 20th July. Students will still be able to access existing material on Teams, Hegarty and GCSE Pod should they wish to either catch up with work missed or consolidate learning, staff however, will not be online each day during the holiday period. For Year 10 students concerned about gaps in learning, consolidation is the key. If all online work has been completed there will be no gaps, but repetition through recall and retrieval is vital. Each department has planned some retrieval work for Year 10 to complete over the Summer period. This is not catch up, but just an integral part of our learning cycle, which if completed will help students immensely when they return to school in September. A letter from Mrs Collins will be sent to all Year 10 parents before we break up. Due to the current climate, GCSE results' day cannot function as normal. I am sure Year 10 families will understand we are prioritising our current Year 11 families to ensure as much normality as possible for them. Year 10 students will still be able to pick up English Literature results from school on Thursday 20th August. Parents should use the main entrance and wait in South Block car park. Adhering to social distancing markers, Year 10 should enter the building alone through the South Block Bay entrance and follow the one-way system in place to the Haven. Results should be collected at the following times:

Surname	Time	Surname	Time
A - D	10:30 – 11:00	N - Q	12:00 – 12:30
E - I	11:00 – 11:30	R-U	12:30 – 13:00
J - M	11.30 – 12:00	V - Z	13:00 – 13:30

Whilst it is essential everyone has a well-earned break, we will of course be planning for all students to return to school in September throughout the Summer. Our country has changed significantly from last September, although our ethos will not change, from an operational perspective school will also be a very different place in September. **Please find attached a COVID-19 reintegration guide I have put together for students, parents and carers. I would encourage you to read this guide with your child over the Summer period.** Our priority is to ensure all students can be safely and successfully integrated back into the school building in September. The guide provides a bespoke insight as to how we intend to implement the government's guidelines at Royds. I am sure you will appreciate this has taken much time and considerable thought. There are still some key questions (particularly around transport)

that we will be discussing with external stakeholders over the Summer, however hopefully the guide will answer most of your operational questions. Specifics regarding academic issues (particularly linked to Year 7 and 11) will be disseminated once we have all children safely back in school once again.

To ensure all students and families are aware of protocols and procedures, attendance at our **Enrolment Day on Tuesday 8th September is compulsory and imperative for all. Students need to attend with one family member.** Students need to attend in school uniform (please note changes to the policy on skirts in the attached document; Royds' skirts only from September onwards). Students will receive their planner and timetable on this day and it will be clearly explained which entrance respective year groups need to use as part of our COVID Health and Safety plan. To help staff identify year groups easily, students in Years 8, 9 and 10 will exchange their tie for a new tie (funded by school) with a coloured stripe to match their year group zone. Year 11 will remain blue and Year 7 have already been asked to purchase a yellow tie. Individual equipment packs will also be explained, and all parties will need to sign the Home-School agreement, which has been adapted this year considering current circumstances. Appointment times will be emailed over the course of the next couple of weeks, if you do not receive an appointment, please contact lworrillow@roydsschool.org.

To help us establish new systems and protocols, we will be staggering start days following enrolment on the 8th.

Wednesday 9th September: Years 7 and 11 only (8:30am start)

Thursday 10th September: All year groups in school from 8:30am

Finally, the end of every school year brings a new era as staff move on to pastures new and colleagues join our exciting journey. Ms Wooding (Teacher of Computing) and Ms McGuigan (Teacher of Psychology) will be leaving us to join a sixth form college. Mr Mincher's (Teacher of MFL) temporary contract will end in August and Mr Barber (Careers Advisor) will be retiring. Ms Hodkin (Teacher of English) will sadly be leaving us to join a school much closer to home. It is with a heavy heart that she leaves Royds, but there are only so many times you can sit on the M1 repeatedly in traffic at 7:30 each morning. We thank them all for their commitment whilst they have been at Royds and wish them well in their new adventures. A sign of our growth as a school is the new staff we have been able to appoint; all additions below are due to the expansion of our school. Our Year 7 for September is over-subscribed. We look forward to welcoming:

Name	Subject	Name	Subject
Miss Gill	Teacher of Geography	Miss Brosnan	Learning Support
Miss Gelley	Teacher of MFL	Mrs Thompson	Learning Support
Mrs Rushton	Teacher of MFL	Mr Coughlin	Site Team
Ms Perez	Teacher of MFL	Mr Coult	Mini-bus driver
Mr Catterall	Teacher of Music (Mat)	Mrs Callery	Careers Advisor
Mrs Field	Teacher of Technology	Mr Williams	Deputy SENCO

Thank you for your support over the last few months. I hope you have an enjoyable and restful Summer. I look forward to seeing more of you in person once again in September. All students have been emailed our 'Staying Safe over the Summer' poster with contact details, but if any **safeguarding concerns arise during the holidays, please contact us at safesummer@roydsschool.org or text us 07712 215037.** Take care and stay safe.

Your Sincerely



Claire Robbins
Headteacher



Silver
Until 2022

