

1 June 2020

As you will be aware, secondary schools have been asked to provide “some face to face support” for Year 10 students before the end of the Summer term, to supplement the remote learning that will continue to be the main provision until the end of this term. I write to outline how we intend to deliver this support.

Over a period of several weeks, students will have the opportunity to attend a series of 30-minute face-to-face support sessions, one with each of their subject teachers. Individual teachers will decide how many students will be present at any one time, but there will be a maximum of 5 students in each individual session. It may not be possible for some subject teachers to run these sessions on-site and you will be advised if your child will need to see a different teacher or have an on-line session instead.

The sessions will take place in selected areas of the school such as the Sports Hall, gym, FL building and canteen. These venues have been chosen because they have more than one entrance, so that we can implement a strict one-way system to avoid students entering and leaving through the same door. Each of these venues will contain a series of “learning stations”. At each station there will be a teacher’s desk and 5 student desks, so that students will be seated 2 metres away from one another and from the teacher. We will provide face-masks and strongly encourage students to wear them. There will also be hand sanitisers at each learning station and students will be instructed to use them before and after their session. Each learning station will be cleaned between sessions. In the interests of health and safety, NO equipment will be provided and students should bring with them pens, pencils and any other items they may need for their session.

Each subject area is being given allocated days on which to run these sessions, so each student will only see one teacher on each visit to school. There will be up to 6 “learning stations” being used, so there is potential for 30 students to be on site at any one time. It is therefore vital that students only attend at the specified time and that they leave the site immediately after the allocated session. Strict social distancing will apply whilst they are in school. Any student who does not comply with our instructions on social distancing will be asked to leave the site immediately. Students must also observe social distancing on their way to and from the school and should avoid the use of public transport if at all possible. Please note, however, that we cannot directly supervise students on the journey to and from school so they will need to take responsibility for their own safety whilst travelling.

In order to protect students and staff, parents are instructed NOT to come onto the school site. If you wish to bring your child to school, please do not drive onto the school site.

I also urge you not to send your child into school if they have any symptoms, such as a cough, high temperature or a loss of taste or smell. It goes without saying that they should not attend if they or any member of your household are self-isolating. Please also let us know if your child develops symptoms after they have attended a school session so that we can arrange testing for the other students and the teacher.

Health and safety is our top priority and we realise that many parents will want to wash their children’s clothes after they have been into school. For that reason, we will not ask students to wear uniform for these sessions.

If you do not want your child to attend for these on-site sessions, the same sessions will be delivered “virtually”, using the same software as we have been using for the “live” lessons. We anticipate that a number of our parents will want to opt for this option, especially if you are concerned about your child travelling to and from school or if you have vulnerable or shielded people in your household. Effectively, we are giving you the choice to make decisions based on your family circumstances and we can assure you that no child will miss out if you would prefer to opt for the virtual sessions.

Please note that we are working within very strict guidelines in terms of numbers of students on the site as there is a concern about students mixing and taking the virus back into the community. In addition, the earliest date for the start of the on-site sessions is now 15th June, though this may be changed if, for example, the PPE we have ordered has not arrived or if the Government decide to push back the date. For these reasons, it may become necessary to restrict the on-site sessions to those who are struggling to access the virtual learning, should we have a very high uptake for the on-site sessions. We will, of course, do our very best to accommodate all those who wish to attend.

In order to help with our detailed planning, we need to know how many students to expect in school. If you wish your child to attend these subject teacher sessions on-site, please let us know by the end of the day on Friday, 5th June at the latest. The easiest way to do this is by emailing the dedicated email address year10@flhs.wigan.sch.uk. If you would prefer to opt for the virtual sessions, you do not have to do anything. Your child's subject teachers will be in contact to arrange these sessions in due course.

I hope that this information is clear. If you have any questions or concerns, please email on year10@flhs.wigan.sch.uk. In the meantime, please be assured that we have made the health and safety of our students, staff and wider "Freddies family" the absolute priority when we have drawn up these plans. Whether you choose on-site or virtual provision for your child, we look forward to helping them further with their learning in these difficult times.

Stay safe and well.



MRS J GARRETTS
Headteacher