

LANCASTER ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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16th June 2020

Dear L6th pupils and parents,

We have now been given confirmation that we can begin to open school more widely from the week beginning 22nd June, and so we would like to give you an update on Sixth Form teaching from now until the end of the academic year.

The shifting sands landscape has made planning for a phased return to school a real challenge. We have looked at many factors, including, crucially, the progress of the pupils and the huge restriction of only being allowed 25% of pupils in at any one time. There are many complexities with pupils being in so many different option blocks with many different teachers, all of which can make planning for social distancing incredibly difficult. We have consulted widely with our teachers and taken into account their preferences and circumstances. Based on all the information we have, we have decided that, in line with government guidance, continuing to teach remotely for the rest of this academic year is the right way forward for the majority of lessons.

However, we also recognise the importance of pupils and teachers having some face to face contact. A number of teachers are in favour of this and their personal circumstances mean that they can make it on to school site. We have 10 teaching groups that we are able to offer this to. From Tuesday 23rd June, we are inviting pupils in these groups to come back into school for afternoon lessons. These 10 groups will only be in school one afternoon a week with their teacher, between 13:45 and 15:45, either Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday (see table below). These afternoon sessions last for 3 weeks. We feel this will also give us as teachers a real indication as to what is currently possible in the classroom and enable us to try out different initiatives ahead of September.

Most boarders and pupils either self-isolating or shielding will not be able to attend and some students who have a long commute may also choose not to attend – all of these pupils will be able to be part of these sessions remotely through Teams.

The list of classes for the face to face sessions are as follows.

Day	Class	Teacher	Room
Tuesday (pm)	LA (Art)	JPH	Art Room
	LEc1 (Economics)	RW/IR	BM1
	LFM (Further Maths)	RTM	H2
Wednesday (pm)	LG2 (Geography)	IWL	R11/R10
	LFM (Further Maths)	BJC	H2

Thursday (pm)	LM6 (Maths)	MIC	H5
	LEc2 (Economics)	IR/RW	BM1
	LE2 (English)	SM/NJR	S1
	LM5 (Maths)	RTM	H2
	LSp (Spanish)	PP	R11

We have strict guidelines and daily reports to adhere to in terms of registering who is on school site. If you / your child is in one of the 10 groups listed above, we need to know intentions for attendance. If you / your child is unable to make these sessions please contact Mrs Gibbon (dgibbon@lrgs.org.uk) and the class teacher by Friday 19th June, we will need to know the reason for absence as we have a duty to report these to the DfE.

Any student with suspected symptoms must not come into school. Staff will explain the new hygiene and distancing procedures to all students as they arrive. Students should go straight to their room on arrival and must not gather in groups before or after the sessions. Hand sanitation stations will be in place at the entrance to each area of the school or outside the classroom being used. Two metre distancing will be in place during the sessions.

Please also be reminded that school is open for the children of key workers and for vulnerable pupils. We have a group of teachers supervising a small number of Sixth Formers each morning in the Sixth Form Centre. Pupils are working on Teams but are able to access pastoral support from the supervising staff. Please get in touch with Miss Haigh if you require further details.

Please be reassured that pupils not in school or not in any of these groups will not be disadvantaged in any way. They will still receive the same remote teaching as always and continue to make progress over these last few weeks. We understand there could well be frustrations at home and do ask you to get in touch if support is needed. We have been hugely impressed by the work ethic and achievements of the Sixth Form through these most difficult times and we do hope to be able to get all of the year group back into school as soon as possible.

Yours faithfully,

Mr M I Chambers
Deputy Head, Director of Studies