



The Birley Academy

A L.E.A.D. Academy

14 May 2020

Dear Parent/ Carer

I hope you and your families have been keeping well during these recent times. We have had an enormous amount of positive feedback for the work that we are doing to support students while they are not attending school and we remain, as always, committed to sustaining not only their learning but also their wellbeing.

You will be aware of the recent government announcements and guidelines regarding the phased reopening of schools for some students. Whilst this guidance is still far from the finished product, we are starting to plan for what that might look like at The Birley Academy. Primary schools may be opening for some year Groups from the 1st June 2020. The guidance for secondary schools is that we should consider offering some face to face contact for Y10 next half term which will be based around supplementing students' remote learning rather than a full time timetable.

We are now working on a plan for how this will be achieved at The Birley Academy and I will be writing to parents of Year 10 as soon as we have more detail to outline what that will look like.

I want to assure you that I am aware that, as parents and carers, you may well have concerns around your child returning to school. However, part of our current planning is around managing the risk and the health and safety of everyone. I also want to assure you that we will not be placing undue pressure on any parent who decides that they will not be sending their child back to school immediately. We will be happy to discuss any concerns you might have.

Our childcare provision will remain in place at this time, operating as it has done since the start of lockdown.

There are no current plans for year groups other than Y10 to return at the moment. Students in all year groups (including Y10) should, in the meantime, continue to access remote learning and the support of their teachers, tutors and Year Leaders online. There are also many resources to support with their wellbeing and mental health which I hope you find helpful.

I would like to thank you for the enormous support we have had from you enabling us to work together so well. We are really look forward to seeing all of the students again and to teaching them in person. We miss them very much. On behalf of all my colleagues here at The Birley Academy I would also like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all of you for the amazing job you are doing in keeping your children engaged in school whilst juggling everything else that is happening. We love getting updates of how our students are and all the exciting projects they are getting involved in.

As soon as I am able I will let you know more detailed information.

Yours faithfully

Gina Newton
Headteacher