



19 June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

### **Year 9 Return to Wilmington Academy**

I am pleased to share with you our plans for Year 9 students to return to the academy from Monday 29 June 2020.

Our aim is for students to have access to high quality subject face to face sessions for the majority of their subjects.

Students will be allocated a particular day of the week to attend a 'pastoral pod'. The pod will consist of 10 students to one teacher. Students will remain in the pastoral pod all day with the subject specialists facilitating sessions throughout the day.

Each student will be taught English, maths, science and history, geography or a horticulture lesson on the day allocated to them.

#### **Onsite learning**

In summary your child will be allocated one day a week for English, maths, science, geography, history or horticulture from June 29th.

#### **Distance Learning**

On the days where your son/daughter is not at the academy, they will need to continue to use resources supplied via Google Classrooms via the distance learning website.

**You will receive a telephone call from your child's college in the early part of next week regarding arrangements for your child's return. You will then receive a text message with confirmation of the day of the week and the room location they will need to be in.**

#### **Timetable**

The school day will start at 8.50am and end at 2.45pm. Students will be dismissed from 2:45pm allowing a staggered exit. They will be taught in the same room and will have different break and lunch times to other 'pastoral pods'.

We are confident that over the next five weeks, staff can start to fill in some of the gaps in knowledge that will have occurred during the lockdown.

### **Equipment**

Students will be supplied with an exercise book to complete their class work in, this book will come home with your child at the end of the day and they must remember to bring it in with them the following week. Please could you provide your son/daughter with a pen, pencil, ruler and rubber.

### **Code of conduct**

The schedule of the day includes a daily briefing for students at 8:50 am. The aim of this session is to welcome students back into the academy environment, explain the process for the day, safety measures and code of conduct around the buildings.

We have adapted our Home-Academy Agreement to account for Covid 19 and a copy of this is attached to this letter. Your child will be asked to sign this in the induction on their first day back, please reiterate to them how important it is to abide by these new points. This will be kept in school and we will deem that you agree to these new terms, by sending your child back into school.

### **Uniform**

Students do not need to wear their uniform, however they must wear smart/casual clothing which is practical for learning. Please can you ensure that clothes are washed on their return home from the academy. Tracksuits, jeans, skirts/shorts, t-shirts and trainers are permitted, but **for health and safety reasons, sliders or flip flops cannot be worn.**

### **Food and Drink**

The restaurant is closed and water fountains cannot be used, so please can you provide your child with a packed lunch and a water bottle with their name on it. Free School Meal vouchers will remain for those that are eligible, and you will receive them via the process used since April 2020.

### **Toilets**

Students will be able to use the toilets when they need to, and will have access to a designated set of these which are used by their 'pod'. There is both soap and hand sanitiser on site for your child to use.

### **Year 10 and 12 and Key Worker Students**

Following previous communication, year 10, year 12 and key worker students will also be on site and I want to reassure you that these will be taught in separate classrooms of the school, minimising contact - social distancing will be implemented across the academy at all times.

I appreciate that this is a worrying time for parents and I want to reassure you that safety has always been, and remains, our top priority.

### **Buses/Travel**

If your child normally comes to school by bus, we have received the following information from the bus companies: *"Companies are now operating capacities of 20 on double deckers, and 10/11 on single deckers. When capacity is reached there is a BUS FULL sign going on the front of the bus. At present Arriva are operating 41 buses and all commercial routes are operating at 20/30 minutes. Due to drivers still shielding they cannot run school buses at present. All of ASD and Nu-Venture services are running with reduced capacities also."*

We would request that wherever possible that students either walk or are dropped off at school by car in the **first staff car park**. If you have no other option than for your son/daughter to use public transport, you should contact the bus company to see if that service is running.

Please note that there are no specific school services running at present.

If you have any questions concerning your son/daughter's return to Wilmington Academy, please would you email the academy on [admin@wilmingtonacademy.org.uk](mailto:admin@wilmingtonacademy.org.uk)

It is important that we begin to re-establish learning routines. This plan enables us to begin to do this in a carefully managed way and we look forward to welcoming your son/daughter back into the academy from week commencing Monday 29th June.

Take care and stay safe.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Gore', written in a cursive style.

**Mr M Gore**  
**Principal**