

20th May 2020



FAO All Parents/Carers of Bradgate Education Partnership

Dear All

Re: Increased opening of schools in June

As noted in our letter last week and following further discussion with our headteachers we are now writing to you outlining the Trust's plans for the increased provision that your child can expect in the coming weeks. At this point we would like to thank our families and staff for returning such informative and honest responses to the questionnaires as this has provided invaluable insight to support our plans. We would also like to publicly thank our headteachers and their staff, who have been amazing throughout this situation. Coming to a collective decision in such an unprecedented situation has not been easy but key to our decision making has been the safety and well-being of our students and staff. We know that our decisions will not please everyone but we have been strongly guided by the responses we received from the questionnaires so have tried to consider as many opinions and wishes as possible.

The plan

Year group	Date for increase of provision
Key worker / vulnerable children	Continue to attend
Y6	Monday 1 st June
Y1, Y10 & Y12	Monday 8 th June
YR and Pre-School/Nursery	Monday 15 th June

Your school will provide you with all of the local arrangements for your child with regards to timings, staffing, drop-off and collection etc. For secondary students in the priority year groups this is likely to mean one day of face to face support per week for Year 10 students and course specific provision for Year 12 students.

Could these timelines change?

We hope not. However, if the situation with Covid19 improves significantly we have modelled bringing back groups of students in line with DfE guidance. Similarly, if the situation declines we feel confident we could push back these timescales and support students via online learning for longer.

Why these year groups?

These are the year groups the government has asked us to prioritise. The intention is that some face to face tuition and feedback will be of benefit to those students with important exams next year.

Why these timings?

We have considered these timings carefully and are working in line with DfE and government guidance.

What about other year groups?

Years 7, 8 and 9 will continue with remote learning and any additional support will be done in line with government advice. Those Year 11 with a place in Bradgate Sixth Form will continue to receive the access to A Level work and associated support.

Do I have to send my child back?

The government would like all those children in the identified year groups to return to school and we will be doing everything we can to make that return as safe as possible. However, we completely understand why some people may not feel confident at this moment in time with their child returning to school. Therefore we will be continuing to try and provide support for online learning, even in those year groups with the option to return. We hope this means that no child misses out. At this moment in time we do not think there will be any actions towards those parents keeping their children at home but if the government issues further guidance we will share this with you. We certainly won't be pushing for this and will try to respect and support your decision regarding your child.

What are you doing to keep my child safe?

The specific arrangements for your child will be provided by your child's headteacher. However, all schools have undertaken and implemented stringent cleaning regimes as well as comprehensive risk-assessments and planning prior to re-opening. All schools will be making a raft of adjustments, including reducing group sizes to a maximum of 15 but once again it is worth making it clear that the strict 2m social distancing policy cannot be maintained in a school environment. Examples of the cleaning requirements, pre-opening planning and risk assessments will be published shortly on the Trust website. We will also publish the headline data returns we received from families and staff.

What happens if there is a case of Covid19 at my child's school?

If there is a suspected case all families in the affected group will be informed and asked to keep their child at home – online support will be provided. If the case tests negative all children will be able to return to their group; if the case is confirmed positive all staff and students in that particular group (or who have had contact with that group) will be required to quarantine for 14 days – again online support and resources will be provided for these students.

What are the staffing arrangements?

Headteachers are making local staffing arrangements and will share these with you prior to your child returning to school. Staffing decisions are made based on subject expertise, staff availability and considerations about mobility between groups. As you might expect we have staff who are experiencing some understandable anxieties, as well as some of the practical childcare considerations many of you are facing. We are going to try to support our staff and respect their situation throughout this period.

Curriculum

Throughout this period of increased provision students learning will be focused on consolidating this year's learning and readiness for the new academic year rather than their usual timetabled expectation. Although there are bound to be elements of key skills such as reading and mathematics involved, we will be focussing strongly upon supporting the transition back into school and the children's well-being. We hope you can support us with this decision.

Key worker and Vulnerable students

We would encourage families to continue to use this facility. The provision for these students will remain, although students in the government's identified year groups (YR1, 6 & 10) should move into their respective year group arrangements as they become available – e.g. any Y10 key worker students should continue to use the key worker provision up until June 8th then move into the Y10 group.

Thank you for your on-going support. We will continue to publish any relevant or helpful documents on our website and will communicate any future developments as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely



Gareth Nelmes
Chief Executive Officer



Dean Pomeroy
Director of Schools