



Tring School

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Mortimer Hill Tring Herts HP23 5JD



21 October 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are writing to you to outline the plans for Year 12 and 13 students over the coming half term.

Firstly, we would like to thank you for your support as parents and offer our praise to the students in both Year 12 and 13 for the mature and responsible way in which they have conducted themselves over the last eight weeks. In particular, the last two weeks have been a real challenge with all students coming into school for lessons only. We appreciate that this has caused logistical issues for many, however, these have been overcome in order for students to still be able to access lessons in person with teachers. Maintaining face to face provision for our Sixth Form students is the highest priority and we have to balance the needs of all at this challenging time.

Since September, Year 13 students have been diligently working at home in study periods and coming in for lessons only. With the exception of the last two weeks, Year 12 students have been in school full time from Periods 1-4 and subsequently have been able to settle into their A Level and BTEC studies effectively. The transition into Sixth Form is always significant, particularly after a period of time at home last year, and Year 12 have already settled into their new ways of working.

Year 13

Looking forward to the next half term, it is vital that Year 13 are given a more consistent period of time where they are able to access support from their teachers and pastoral staff; establish a more rigorous routine; and fully prepare for their A Level and BTEC examinations - which are planned to commence May 2021. Therefore, from Monday 2 November, **all Year 13 students will be expected to be back in school from 8.40 am until 1.20 pm**. As before, if they do not have lessons P5, they are permitted home study.

Year 12

As a consequence of instigating this broader support for Year 13, we will require **Year 12 to study from home and be in school for lessons only**. The exceptions to this are as follows: those students who live further away from school and are unable to travel home; a selected list of students who require greater support and will be expected in school; and any students where parents are concerned about work rate and work ethic at home. In this last instance, we ask that parents contact the Sixth Form Team via sixthform@tringschool.org and we can ensure there is space for students to study in school.

Our intention is that after Christmas, we will work towards being able to house both year groups in school. If this is not possible, Year 12 will return to school P1-4 and Year 13 to be in school for lessons only. By rotating our provision in this way, we are creating the fairest balance for all.

Tel: 01442 822303 Email: tringschool@tringschool.org www.tring.herts.sch.uk



Of course, none of us can predict the situation with the pandemic and its impact on our provision, but we will keep you informed as things develop.

Study Space

For all of Year 13, and the selected in school Year 12 students, study space can be utilised in the Learning Resource Centre, Sixth Form Centre, spare classrooms, and, where necessary, we will also open up the Dining Hall. Students are not required to book a study space, however, they are advised, as always, to be mindful of social distancing during their independent study.

Face-Coverings

Over the last two weeks, we have required all Year 12 and 13 students to wear masks in lessons. Moving forwards, students are only required to wear face-covering in communal areas of the school. This includes the Learning Resource Centre and Sixth Form Centre as before, and also where students are working in spare classrooms.

Students Leaving Site

An issue which we face when students are in school is the influx of students visiting Tesco at break (10.50 am) and lunchtime (1.20 pm); we know that members of the community are understandably concerned when large groups of young adults flock into Tesco at these times. Once again, we implore students to avoid going to Tesco, instead, use our in-school provision from the canteen which is available at lunchtime.

Thank you for your ongoing support as parents, and for working with us, to ensure that we can keep students in lessons with regular face to face contact with their teachers. We are in the minority of Sixth Forms of this size who have been able to maintain this provision and this is due to the support of our parental body and the maturity of our students. We are incredibly proud of everyone's resilience and determination.

Contact

Finally, we would like to reiterate the key points of contact for parents. Mrs Kay goes on maternity leave this Friday 23 October, and your key points of contact are Mrs Browne for Year 12 (ebrowne@tringschool.org) and Mr Belony for Year 13 (cbelony@tringschool.org). You may also need to contact Miss Moore for more general student support (amoore@tringschool.org) and the Sixth Form email address is sixthform@tringschool.org. We encourage parents to contact subject teachers directly for subject issues.

We wish the students a restful half term break and look forward to seeing them back into lessons with a positive mindset from Monday 2 November.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs S Kay

Mr C Belony

Mrs E Browne