



15th May 2020

Dear parent/carers

As you may have seen in the news this week, the Government is considering the potential opening of primary and secondary schools to “some” year groups. There are still no final details or arrangement in place for this and guidance is being reviewed and received on a regular basis to schools on how they “may” re open, and considerations I need to make in doing so, if the science suggest that the time is right.

The Government’s plan is that primary schools will open in the first instance. Therefore, The Garibaldi School will remain closed to all students until further notice. The school will continue to operate a skeleton provision for students whose parents are keyworkers. I must stress that this provision is only to be used as a last resort.

I am currently working with the leadership team and staff to explore the logistical and practical potential for students in Year 10 and 12 to return in the first instance. I will, however, only do so if I can maximise as far as practically possible, the health and safety of staff and students and the Government / Trust advises it is safe to do so. I must stress, there is no current planned date for this provision to start and I will keep you updated on developments.

Work will continue to be set in the same way for the time being. We have been exploring the potential of developing “video” style lessons and may begin to roll out some sample lessons after the holidays to check on its viability. I am even looking to create a video myself over the coming week so watch this space.

I continue to be exceptionally proud of the students and have seen a surge in the number of students submitting work of a really good quality. I encourage them to keep this up as it will be of benefit in the long run. We have one more week left until the May Half Term holiday and would advise that they have a break during this week and refresh ready for the final half term of this academic year.

The long term future of educational provision remains unclear. I will, however, be planning out the next year as if September will be a usual start. This may of course change. We are reviewing different aspects of provision in order to ensure that the educational experiences of students improve year on year. There will be some changes made to processes and procedures, outside of the current situation we find ourselves in, which I will write to you about in the future weeks.

Finally a big congratulations to this week's nominations for the "Hall of Fame" for the quality of work and exceptional attitudes to learning. A personal email/letter and certificate from me will be on its way to students in recognition.

Until next week – best wishes and stay safe.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Aldred', with a horizontal line underneath.

Mr J Aldred
Head of School