



PRESDALES SCHOOL

Achievement for all

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Dear Parent/Carer

I trust you are all keeping well.

It seems strange to many of us that shops are now opening, some social distancing measures have been relaxed, but we still can't get all of our students back into school. We are bound by the government guidelines that we should not have more than 25% of the combined Year 10 and 12 cohorts in school at any time (This is up to 74 students for us). When the announcement was made that all primary school children would be back in school for four weeks before the end of term, everyone in education knew this was not possible. Most primary schools have a classroom per year group, and you cannot get half a class in those rooms. We have two classrooms in school that will take 15 students if we adhere to the social distancing guidelines of 2 metres. Announcements by government that have no obvious plans behind them do not help us.

I am so grateful for the goodwill of parents during this time. The novelty factor of not being in school wore off for staff, students and parents fairly quickly. If social distancing remains at 2 metres, or even 1 metre then we will never get all of our students into school at the same time. Please be assured that we are looking forward to when we can get greater numbers of students into school. Our plans have to take into account all year groups and are fully backed by our board of trustees. I would be very disheartened if we lost the goodwill and support of parents because of constraints that we do not have control of.

Changes to curriculum

Year 10/12

Over the next few weeks we will be increasing lesson time in each subject to the normal amount pre lockdown. Students will also be set homework if it is appropriate to do so.

Google meets Year 10/12

These will continue and it is up to the subject to decide how many they will deliver. Following feedback from staff, google meets are more useful in some subjects than others. A few subjects have found that the pace of delivery is slower when providing a google meet. There should be a blended approach to delivering lessons; subject leaders know what the most appropriate blend is for their subject.

Autumn assessments Year 10/12

We will be holding autumn assessments on our return. These will take place in lessons, and will more than likely be only one paper per subject. This will help staff to identify any gaps and enable them to adjust their planning appropriately for the academic year ahead. Students can expect these assessments to take place from the middle of the first week back.

Year 7 and 8

If any of the students find that they have completed the project work, then they can complete tasks on SAM learning and the remote learning website [Oak National Website](#). I will remind students of this in my update to them.

Black Lives Matter

I am grateful to Alaina Nwosa, Year 12, for putting together an assembly on 'Black Lives Matter'. An audio commentary has been added and it will be made available to all students to watch.

Thank you for your continued support

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt Warren". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Matt Warren
Headteacher