



## “Success For All”

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Dear Parent/ Carer,

As always, I hope that you are all safe and well.

Normally, at this point in the academic year, I write to you to celebrate the wonderful year that we have had in school and all of the achievements that the students have accomplished. Even during the lockdown, I have been blown away by how resilient our children have been. A credit to you as Parents and Carers, they have coped with a very premature and immediate end to their academic year, difficult and often frightening media and news coverage, a change to their working routines and environments as well as the general loss of their friendship contact. We know that many of you have struggled trying to support your children whilst also maintaining your own jobs and careers from home.

Yet, despite all of these extreme challenges, we have also seen children completing the most wonderful work, we have witnessed them supporting each other remotely as well as sending their own messages of support and care to our staff. Our students have shown themselves to be the resilient, caring and mature young people that we have always known they are.

As a learning community we now want and need to get ready to welcome our students back into Netherhall Learning Campus. It has been reassuring to see from the media that the national picture is looking more positive with the relaxing of social distancing measures and the reopening of wider communities. We therefore have to be hopeful that this will continue and have decided to put in place full measures for the welcoming of students back to school in the week beginning Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

We are very aware that the students return will need to be managed with a calm approach, with care and with positivity. The students will therefore return to the Netherhall with a bespoke programme which is designed to support their mental health and wellbeing and address the anxieties that will inevitably form part of their return. This will be led by their form tutors on their first day back.

This will ensure that students are mentally equipped to begin their new classes for the academic year and that they will have a toolkit of strategies to support their reintegration back into school. In order to allow us to focus on each year group and deliver this programme, we have implemented staggered start dates for September as follows:

<b>Year Group</b>	<b>Start Date</b>
Year 7	Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> September 2020
Year 11	Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> September
Year 8	Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> September 2020
Year 9 & Year 10	Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> September 2020

It is understandable that you will be concerned for your children's loss of learning and you will worry about their reintegration. My message is, please don't. Our staff have already formed plans to catch the children up in all year groups, including Year 11. Over the course of the first half term, our teachers will be using class work, assessments and practical work to evaluate where the students are at in terms of their learning in order to then apply appropriate intervention and support for each individual student. We will ensure that we keep you updated as parents as to additional interventions outside the classroom that are necessary so that you can support from home too. We will have all aspects of their academic and emotional needs covered.

### **Welcome to new members of staff**

We are very excited that despite the lockdown measures we have been able to recruit new staff and so will be welcoming Mrs Pujol as Head of World Studies, Mr Kerrison as Head of Mathematics, Miss Godrich and Mr Jones to the World Studies department and Mr Talbot, Mrs Sykes and Miss Green to our Art department. I am sure that you will join us in wishing them every success with us here at Netherhall!

### **Uniform**

As we prepare for the new year, I ask for your continued support as always in ensuring that the students start their year dressed in the correct uniform, using our uniform list on the website on the following link <https://www.nlconline.org.uk/netherhall-learning-campus-high-school/for-parentscarers/uniform/>. I have attached information from our uniform supplier Term Time Wear as to how they will be operating this summer.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for all of your support over recent months. Thank you for choosing to send messages of care and enquiry about our staff and community.

All of our plans that we have put in place are centred on our ambition to get the students back as safely and as quickly as we can in September. We are obviously very aware however, that this is an ever changing situation and there may be announcements in August from the government and public health which may force us to amend these plans. Should this happen, we will write to you as soon as possible to notify you of any changes.

We are also currently reviewing more detailed plans following the latest update from the government on their guidance for schools returning. As soon as we have this, we will finalise exactly what the students' provision in school will look like and we will update you accordingly.

In the meantime, please take care of each other and try now to enjoy a summer break!

Yours sincerely



Michael Kent  
**Principal**