



# High Tunstall College of Science

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Headteacher: Mark R Tilling

Deputy Headteachers: Peter W Hayward and Laura Ovens

21<sup>st</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

You will have read in the press and heard that the government wish us to open the college wider to more students from Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020. We at High Tunstall have been asked specifically to open to facilitate some face to face support for **Year 10 only** and I am writing to inform you what our plan will be. We agree with Hartlepool Borough Council that we can only open when it is safe to do so. We must all work together to ensure that we get through this pandemic as safely as we can. We wish to offer a variety of contact for Year 10 and would like to propose two phases.

From Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June phase one offers students two options to pick from so we can help and support all students and assess their engagement with learning. These are:

- a) Come into College to meet with a teacher in a small group and be socially distancing  
or
- b) Receive an online conference call using either "Zoom" or "Teams", where the parent would need to be present

The aim of this contact time will be to provide students with support with their remote learning and ensure that they are engaging with all subjects and making sure they are fit and well to continue to learn. **Remote learning will still continue, and all of students' work in phase one will need to continue to be done at home.**

Phase two will begin from Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June where we will be organising bespoke support sessions with specialist teachers where we have identified gaps in learning and non-engagement. It will be expected that all students engage with the second phase either remotely online with others or in a classroom at College.

It is important to stress that start and end times of the sessions will be staggered and no more than six students will be invited in at any one time and students must not travel together to College. Social distancing rules will be strictly adhered to and students will have a limited chance for social contact with their friends because they will be organised into small groups who will remain together in one classroom.

**I want to be very clear that what we are able to offer in the current circumstances does not resemble a normal school experience. Students will be met outside the College building by their teacher, asked to wash their hands or use the antibacterial gel and go up to the classroom.**

It is obviously a crucial time in Year 10's education and we will continue to provide work online and if you have requested by "Tunny" post through Mr Halliday and Mr Aves. The next set of work will be sent out for the week beginning Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June as we have half term week next week. Students should be given that week off from studying so you can all relax and take a break.



As a parent myself, I appreciate that the decision about what is right for your son/daughter and your family is a very difficult one to make. I also appreciate that you may feel that you want more information in order to make a final decision, please feel free to contact Mr Turner or Mrs Harrison for further information.

Mr J Turner      Head of Year  
Mrs L Harrison    Student Support Officer

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It is also important that we continue to support you in these difficult times and whether or not your son/daughter comes into College we will continue to apply for and receive the FSM vouchers from the government.

I do hope that you have continued to embrace this additional time at home to develop the greater depth of love and togetherness. We might continue to be in challenging times but by remaining positive and looking for aspects of positivity; rather than dwelling on the negatives will help us all come through this together. If there is anything else we can do to support you please do not hesitate to contact the College.

The college will be closed on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May for the Bank Holiday, however, we will reopen on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May at 8.00am for Key Worker and vulnerable students. As ever take care and stay safe and thank you for your ongoing support.

Take care and stay safe.

Yours faithfully



**Mark R Tilling**  
**Headteacher**