

Our Ref: SST/HBr

Monday 8th June 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

With less than 6 weeks to go before the current academic year comes to a close I can fully appreciate that there will be questions, worries and anxiety over what will happen come September and the start of the new academic year. As a school we are planning optimistically for a September opening. However, at this current point in time the only year groups returning to the school before the summer holiday are EYFS, Year 1, Year 10 and Year 12. Their return is in a highly staggered manner, with only half or quarter year groups in school at any one given point in time. Sadly, and frustratingly, the government and the Department for Education have not made a decision regarding September. Ideally I would like this decision to be made sooner rather than later so I can plan how our pupils and community return to school and how this will look. The reality is that I cannot see September being normal. At present no Principal/Head in the country knows what is happening come September. It is heart breaking to think that we are in this position and I can fully empathise with you all that we want, ultimately, to return back to normal as soon as it is safe to do so. Once a national decision is made and guidance is issued to schools I will then, in turn, communicate the localised plan for The Duston School to all parents, guardians and pupils.

I apologise that at present I do not have more information to share with you.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Strickland
Principal

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