



Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

What a difference a day makes! I did say in my letter on Monday that the school would respond rapidly to changing circumstances. Happily some things have changed since then.

I am really pleased to share with you that IT systems infrastructure has been secured, which will enable senior staff to work differently, so that we can now be part of the offer of face to face support during certain hours of the day. This means we can extend an offer for face to face support before the end of term to all Year 10 students and also to some invited students from all other year groups. Consultation with H&S supports our proposal to work this way within our current Risk assessment.

Students in Year 10, who were invited to attend sessions from 15<sup>th</sup> June, will continue with the arrangements in place for them to be in school during their allocated week. Year 12 students will continue to attend according to arrangements in place for them too.

All Year 10 families who did not receive an invitation for their daughter to come into school as part of the reopening from 15<sup>th</sup> June, will shortly receive information on when their daughter can come into school for face to face support as part of a small group of students with a senior leader. Protocols around coming into school and being in school will also be shared. Regrettably we cannot offer choice on when that meeting can take place. Invited students from other year groups will also receive information on when they can come in for face to face support in the same way. For other year groups, this is likely to be in July and so the school may not contact those families until towards the end of June. Following each session, students who would benefit from individual subject support will receive a phone call from the appropriate member of staff.

Another change in technology from this week means that software can be uploaded by teachers on to their off-site school devices which will support them to safely access contact details data and to telephone students and families from off site as well as from school on those few occasions when they are here as part of their Pool rota team.

This increased level of personal contact with our students is still not an ideal amount but we recognise that it is an improvement and an improvement was necessary. Thank you for your patience with all of this. On Monday I could not anticipate that so much of what we hoped could happen, would happen on the same day and so soon after my letter to you on Monday.

All other forms of contact through Google Classroom as detailed in my letter to you on Monday remain available. Should you have concerns about levels of work being set for your daughter, or feedback being given, as always please contact the Head of Department involved who will follow up your query and respond to you as they would if we were all in school as usual.

To contact any member of staff, please email [office@gegschool.org.uk](mailto:office@gegschool.org.uk) for the attention of a particular Department Head or Head of Year for example.

I am aware that while Heads of Year have been emailing weekly wellbeing newsletters to their year group, students may not be accessing their school email to receive the newsletters. Please remind your daughter to check her account. I will continue to email students as I have done already. I will also send video messages to them as I did on Monday and hope that further changes might come about to support more teacher video contact with students.

All good wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Violet Walker". The script is cursive and fluid.

Violet Walker  
Headteacher