



05 June 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

## Partial re-opening and the 'new normal'

Following recent government announcements, and in line with other WeST secondary schools, Plymstock School will be open, on a limited basis, for Years 10 and 12 from Monday 15 June.

From the 15th June the education of our students will continue to be driven using Distance Learning; this will be complemented by an in-school Face-to-Face programme for year 10. Government guidelines require that only 25% of the year group be in school at any one time. We will make direct contact with families in these year groups to share details of when they should attend.

The emphasis in this second half term for all students will be on supporting, reviewing and moving forward with Distance (home) Learning and providing Educare for the children of critical workers and vulnerable students.

The site continues to be prepared for the partial re-opening on 15 June. Last week the Department for Education, released further guidance to assist with the limited re-opening. You will find the guidance here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preparing-for-the-wider-opening-of-schools-from-1-june/planning-guide-for-secondary-schools>

The DfE guidance on the wider re-opening of schools is based around the **stay alert** principles, so the risk of transmission of infection is substantially reduced.

*"To limit the risk of increasing the rate of transmission, scientific advice indicates that we need to take a phased approach that limits both the number of children and young people in school and how much they mix with other pupils and staff."*

We are working to prepare the site to be prepared for Covid-19 compliant health & safety arrangements, with one-way systems and distance marking, and as a result, we will only be inviting small numbers of students into school at any one time and they will be working in very small groups. The restriction is no more than a quarter of Year 10 and 12 on any one day.

**Stay Alert: "Stay two metres apart. We can help control the virus if we all stay alert."**

It is very important therefore that the much needed re-opening of schools is not undermined by the potential for broader social mixing outside school and that we communicate the Government message clearly to our students about not socialising with each other in groups outside school.

To keep students safe we must all promote and explain the importance of the following key message:

**“Stay alert” to “Keep our distance, wash our hands, think of others and play our part. All together.”**

- We all need to stay alert so we can control the spread of the virus
- To stay alert you must remain at home as much as possible
- Work from home if you can
- Limit your contact with other people.
- If you have to go out keep your distance from others.
- 2 metres apart where possible
- Continue to wash your hands regularly
- Do not leave home if you or anyone in your household has symptoms
- Stay alert, control the virus, save lives

The whole community will need to work together throughout this phase to keep us all safe and well.

Best wishes

Yours sincerely



Rob Pearsall  
HEADTEACHER