

Dear Parents and carers,

Following recent announcements and published guidance by the Government to gradually ease the COVID-19 lockdown restrictions, I write to try to clarify some of the messages regarding secondary schools and to reassure you we are doing all we can to keep you informed about information relating to your child/ren.

All of us at Bohunt School Worthing are devoted to the care and education of our students. Of course, we all want to do our bit to serve the national interest and we all want children back in school; however, as Headteacher of this school, my first priority is the safety and well-being of every child and adult who sets foot inside.

The Government's guidance relating to schools is dependent on several conditions being met, as with all the lockdown easing measures. From now until 1 June, Bohunt School Worthing will continue to operate as now, i.e. provision is closed to all except children classed as vulnerable or children of key workers. If your child is not in these categories, please continue to make best use of the online learning that is available so that they keep up with their education as much as possible.

From Monday 1 June, the Government has said – if the conditions are met - that there will be a phased return of schools and colleges and has stated that they 'will ask secondary schools, sixth form and further education colleges to offer some face-to-face support to supplement the remote education of year 10 and year 12 students who are due to take key exams next year', alongside the full time provision offered to priority groups.

We are starting to plan for the partial return of some students, and are optimistic about this partial return happening; however, rest assured we are also putting extensive safety measures in place and conducting rigorous risk assessments before we make any decisions. We will not open up the School unless the national guidance can be safely applied.

I will write again next week with more information. In the meantime, the safety of our students, staff, their families, and our wider school community remain our priority.

Finally, I wanted to let you know how proud I have been of our students over the last few weeks. Whether they are among the small number who have been in school or, like most, they have been at home. I know that they have been a credit to themselves and the School through the quality of work being submitted, involvement in challenges, contributions to the Sussex school games, messages to and from school and engagement with Bob!

Yours sincerely,

Adam Whitehead
Headteacher