

Highworth Warneford School

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Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you are keeping safe and well in these unprecedented times.

I am writing on behalf of the school's Governing Board/Trustees to say thank you for your contribution during these difficult times. I know that managing home learning, alongside your own work and other commitments, will have been very challenging and I am afraid that this is going to continue for the medium term at least.

I would also like to pay tribute to the young people who have had to switch from a school-based environment surrounded by other people, including their friends, to something that is inevitably more isolating. I am reliably informed by the school that, to a large extent, our students have shown high levels of maturity and independence, of which you and they should be proud.

Finally, I would like to thank all of the dedicated teachers, support staff and fellow governors who have worked so hard to keep things up and running. This shows the strength of our team and I have not been surprised by their excellent response and willingness to engage with feedback to make things even better.

I know many of you are worried about how this break in normal schooling will impact on your children. This will be a shared concern mirrored by parents up and down the country. However, I know that the school is looking forward to getting all students back into the building as soon as possible and, in partnership with you, will do their very best to minimise the negative effects and build on the many positives being shown during lockdown.

We are planning to start opening the school on the 15th June for year 10 students and relevant parents will shortly receive information from the school with the details of how this will happen. Of course this will not be the same as before the coronavirus pandemic, as we can only have limited numbers of students in school at any one time to meet government guidelines. We have carried out rigorous risk assessments: the safeguarding of the students is our main priority and we will do all we can to keep the students and staff safe in these difficult times.

Thank you once again for your help and support. We will continue to keep you updated with information as we progress back to some form of normality.

Yours faithfully,

Malcolm Holbrook
Chair of Trustees

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