



21 May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to thank you for your continued support during these difficult times and to share with you the Notre Dame Catholic Sixth Form College plan for a phased wider re-opening of College.

On 11th May, the government announced their plan and guidance for a phased wider opening of schools, colleges and nurseries from 1st June. The emphasis for sixth forms is to '**work towards** the possibility of providing some face-to-face contact with young people in Year 10 and Year 12 to help them prepare for exams next year.' Below is our plan in response to this.

My approach is to take a **phased** wider opening approach and to avoid, where possible, any further disruption to our young people's education, whilst also ensuring as far as possible the safety of all staff and students. Any plan by an educational setting will also be guided by the government having to meet the five tests by 28th May.

The phased wider re-opening has been looked at in detail by myself with our Health & Safety Team and all planning has been based upon the guidance currently in the public domain published by the DfE:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/details-on-phased-wider-opening-of-schools-colleges-and-nurseries>

Guidance, Actions to Prepare and Implementing Protective Measures documents published from 11th May for wider opening using a range of protective measures to ensure education settings remain safe places, <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-educational-and-childcare-settings-to-prepare-for-wider-opening-from-1-june-2020>

ACTIONS to PREPARE for WIDER OPENING:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-educational-and-childcare-settings-to-prepare-for-wider-opening-from-1-june-2020/actions-for-education-and-childcare-settings-to-prepare-for-wider-opening-from-1-june-2020>

IMPLEMENTING PROTECTIVE MEASURES:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings>

Week beginning 1st June: There will be no face-to-face sessions this week. Teaching staff will continue to deliver remote teaching and learning. Services to support students whether it be

students' services, pastoral and wellbeing, careers, pastoral, exams etc will all continue to be available.

Week beginning 8th June and 15th June: We are planning to provide a face-to-face session with a small number of students in the first instance. We will communicate directly with these students to advise them of the college offer during these weeks and what will be available to them. This information will be given out week beginning 1st June. **No other Yr 12 student will be in during these weeks.**

I must stress, only when advised to attend College should any student do so.

Week beginning 22nd June onwards: The College **may** extend this offer from week beginning 22nd June. This will depend on the ability to amend the timetable to accommodate students on site whilst also ensuring we continue to adhere to the DfE guidance . The College is currently planning how to do this. Again, it is paramount, that any offer does not disrupt learning any further, whilst maintaining the safety of all staff and students. Please check the website regularly for updates.

Finally,

All of the above is with many caveats: It is a 'plan' and we all know this can change very quickly! We can only work with the information we have in front of us and therefore we will review this regularly and adapt as and when needed. We appreciate how adaptable you, our students and our staff continue to be.

I sincerely appreciate all your support during these very difficult times and I know concerns for your own families will be causing anxiety. I also know we are a strong Notre Dame community and we can work through this to realise a working model, which ultimately will enable all our students to gain the education we promised, to develop each one to realise their potential both academically and spiritually.

With sincere best wishes

Take care

Yours faithfully



Mrs J Barlow
PRINCIPAL