

12<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I am sure that you will all by now have heard the headlines from the Prime Minister's update on Sunday and again last night.

The Department for Education has, in response, now published further guidelines around the practicalities of potentially returning to school for some year groups and we are in the process of interrogating these in order that we can respond appropriately. Whilst this is an ever changing period, the Seckford Education Trust will always ensure that we balance the educational needs of our students with the safety and wellbeing of our community.

Whilst media speculation around the re-opening of schools will doubtlessly continue for some time yet, in the short-term nothing has changed and we will, for the time being, continue with the new routine of remote learning that the staff and students have established. As a result – and starting today, we are running a series of planning sessions to look at how we increase our support for Year 10 students and will write to Year 10 families with an update next week. We are also in the process of sourcing additional chromebooks and routers for families who need these. For Year 9 students it is our intention to move them to their GCSE options subjects from half term in order that they have the opportunity to complete preparatory work in their GCSE subjects ahead of September. More to follow on this.

Finally, please continue to let us know how you are getting on. Your children are all different, and some will struggle to get through all of the work whilst others whizz through it. If your child is struggling to complete everything, please let their teacher and tutor know so that we can support with prioritising work and tasks. Equally, if your child is completing everything quickly and needs more to do/more challenging work, just let us know. We are also here for you as parents and carers and if you are struggling in any way, then again, please make contact.

Stay safe.

Best wishes.

Mark Barrow  
**Chief Operating Officer - Education**  
Seckford Education Trust