



Spalding High School

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Headmistress Mrs M Anderson B.Ed

16th June 2020

Dear parents, carers and students,

It has been a pleasure to see more students in school this week as we start our academic tutorials for Years 10 and 12. I have spoken to students as they have arrived and left and they have been very positive about seeing their teachers again, even though school does (apparently) feel “a bit weird”!

I would also like to thank parents and carers for the very positive emails that they have sent, thanking staff and the school for support and the organisation of the phased reopening. Your support means a lot to us all at the High School. However, we are very much aware that remote learning is set to continue for the foreseeable future and that some students are finding this difficult. Please do let us know if there are issues (via subject teachers or Head of Year) that we can further support you with.

Phased re-opening and Risk Assessments:

Our Covid-19 Risk Assessments remain in the Covid-19 folder on the school website. If you have any questions regarding the content of these documents, please email enquiries@spaldinghigh.lincs.sch.uk and we will address the issues you raise. It remains our greatest priority to ensure the safety of our students and staff. I hope that our FAQs and Risk Assessments provide you with reassurance of this. However, if there are particular concerns or queries please do contact us to discuss them further. The Government has issued guidance to parents on the phased reopening of schools, which can be found via this hyperlink: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-forparents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june>

We recognise that there is much conflicting and contradictory information about Covid-19 and it remains a parental decision about whether you allow your daughter/son to attend the on-site academic tutorials.

Update for students in Y10 and Y12 sitting exams in 2021:

As you are aware from previous letters, we have been engaging in consultations regarding the impact of Covid-19 on the current Y10 and Y12 and are very much aware that this is a matter that is causing them concern. Ofqual have released the following update:

“We recognise students expecting to take exams next year, and their parents and teachers, are concerned about the disruption to teaching and learning caused by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Our overriding aim is to ensure exams and assessments are as fair as possible and take into account any public health requirements and the well-being of students. We are working closely with the Department for Education, exam boards and groups representing teachers, schools, colleges and students, to carefully consider a range of possible measures. We are planning to publish for consultation, before the end of term, our proposals for next year. We will confirm our decisions as soon as possible to allow time for you to prepare.

I know that these are challenging times in which we are all working together to ensure this year’s results – and ongoing exams and assessments - are as fair as possible. May I take this opportunity to thank you again, I look forward to continuing to work together in the months ahead.”

Yours sincerely, Sally Collier, Chief Regulator, Ofqual

As soon as we receive notification that the Ofqual consultation is open we will inform parents/carers.

Update for Y11 and Y12 Autumn 2020 Examination Series:

Ofqual have released the following update:

“An important feature of the overall arrangements this summer is the planned additional exam series in the autumn, which will provide an opportunity for students who were unable to receive a calculated grade this summer, and others who would like the opportunity to improve their grade, to take exams. Our consultation on the arrangements for the autumn series closed this week and we expect to publish final decisions before the end of the summer term. We received a large number of responses and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who gave us their views. We understand the logistical challenges schools and colleges will face in the autumn, and the potential for public health restrictions to impact on the planned series. We will continue to talk to the sector, and prepare for a range of contingencies, as we finalise our approach. We know schools will want to support all students who wish to take exams in the autumn – we and the exam boards will provide further information in good time about the next steps.”

As soon as we receive notification of Ofqual’s plans we will inform parents/carers and students.

Key Worker attendance:

If key worker parents wish to send their child to school during the fortnight of Monday 29th June – Friday 10th July, please email the School enquiries email no later than Thursday 25th June. Parents need to register that they would like their child to attend during this fortnight but note they can (as per the arrangements explained below) withdraw attendance on particular days as we appreciate this makes it slightly easier for parents working shift patterns. If parents wish to withdraw their child from attending during this fortnight, please do the following:

- Inform us if possible, by 3pm the day before withdrawal and no later than 9am on the day, the child does not attend.
- If the child is unwell and unable to attend, please notify us before 9am as per the normal absence procedures.

School Closure Challenge 5 (Star Jump School Record)

Thank you to everyone who joined in. The results for the new SHS Star Jump School records are:

1st Connie Avery 8N = 108
2nd Evie Hemmings 7S = 83
3rd Briony Sweeting 7J - 72

Well done! Certificates and prizes are on the way to you!

The staff results and (new) record holders are:

1st Miss Jones -108
2nd Mr Farrell-94
3rd Miss Parker -89

Challenge 6:

We have been receiving fantastic photographs of meals prepared by students for their families; Ms Busby is going to find this a very difficult challenge to judge! Keep your photographs coming in as the deadline for this challenge is Friday 19th June.

Yours sincerely



M K Anderson
Headmistress