

Chief Executive
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Kathryn Thompson
Principal

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Dear Parent/Carer

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you and your young person to Abbey Hill Sixth Form. I know that in recent weeks, the student tutor has been in touch to introduce themselves and that some of you have visited the college for a short tour and to meet key staff.

The last few months have been very challenging for the whole Nation and this has had an impact on the transition programme that we would normally offer to new parents/carers and students. I have been encouraged by the many positive comments we have received recognising our best efforts in providing you with vital information in an alternative format.

As we see the Government guidelines relating to the spread of Covid19 slowly begin to ease and as we approach the end of this academic year, I'm sure your thoughts will be turning to the education provision at Abbey Hill Sixth Form from next September. This remains a complicated picture that will continue to be influenced by Government Health Guidance, but I thought that I would share with you our plans based on the most recent Government guidance.

Our intention is to offer a core curriculum based around the statutory elements of the Post 16 programme of study, namely; English Language (Reading/Literacy), Maths, PSD/IT and Science. These subjects will be delivered over a 20 hour week, 9.00am – 2.00pm Monday to Thursday, with additional learning opportunities being available as and when required. Social Distancing measures will be met, with students being taught in safe “teaching bubbles” of no more than 8 students, each bubble being based on our current assessment and progress data. Taking into account the over-arching principal of “Stay Alert and Control the Virus”, we are returning to as close as “normal” as is safe for both students and staff with some modifications of current college routines. For example, students will be allowed to keep their mobile phones in their possession but will be required to turn them off fully during teaching periods. A more detailed outline of this teaching model will be posted onto our college website towards the end of the summer holiday, allowing you to help prepare our students for their return on Wednesday 2 September 2020.

Finally, I would like to thank you for choosing Abbey Hill Sixth Form for Post 16 Education and look forward to working in partnership with you over the coming years. As I begin my maternity leave at the end of this academic year and temporarily pass the leadership of the Sixth Form to Paul Steele (Acting Principal), Paul Barton (Vice Principal) and Steve Cropper (Assistant Vice Principal), I have confidence in your support for meeting the future challenges that we all may face.

Yours sincerely

K. Thompson

Kathryn Thompson