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Where we aspire, nurture, personalise,
engage and promote success

29th June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Firstly, I hope that you and your families are well.

Moving towards the end of what has been a very strange year for everyone, we are busy with transition arrangements. Whilst these will be effective, they will be compromised somewhat due to the Coronavirus pandemic. You should have received contact from a member of your child's new tutor team, as part of the transition process.

Whilst it is always sad to see leavers depart Maplewell, I would like to wish all of them the best of luck for the future. They will always remain part of the Maplewell family and will always be afforded a warm welcome. Unfortunately, our leavers' celebrations have been curtailed but we will be providing students an opportunity to celebrate their achievements sometime next term.

Currently we have approximately 50 students attending school. Numbers have been deliberately low in order to minimise the risk of pupils and staff contracting Covid 19. I am sure that you will have seen a number of local schools where they have had confirmed cases of Coronavirus. This is something that we have taken steps to avoid, with regular hand-washing, additional sanitisers, increased cleaning, staggered drop-offs and pick-ups and strict social-distancing measures implemented across the school. We have also implemented 'bubbles', which further limit the number of people that staff and students come into contact with on a typical day.

I wanted to provide clarity on the summer holidays and the start of next term. Our current term ends on Friday 10 July; after this date our schools will be closed to all pupils (including the children of key workers and those classed as more vulnerable) for the summer break. There have been recent reports of a 'National Catch up Programme', as suggested by the government and delayed openings in the autumn term for some schools in Leicestershire. I would like to assure all parents, carers and students that, all things considered, it is our intention to open for business on Wednesday 26th August 2020 for all students in years 7-11.

Post 16 students will be attending our brand new Post 16 centre in Loughborough on Thursday 27th August 2020. We have taken possession of the building and it will enable us to further expand the opportunities that we can offer our students. New students and their families are being offered guided tours before the end of the summer term.

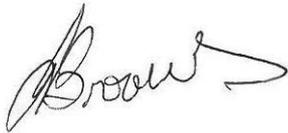


We are intending to deliver a full curriculum to all students from the start of next term. This is very much dependent on government guidance, but we have planned for a range of scenarios if this is not possible, to continue educating our students. The online learning opportunities remain an integral part of our current offer this term. We will be arranging for the collection of laptops before the end of term, which will enable us to give them a full update in readiness for next term.

When students do return to full-time education, there will be a comprehensive 'recovery curriculum' in place. We will have an extensive team of staff on hand to support with student and staff well-being. These include expert staff, a range of therapists and an educational psychologist. This is in addition to our own, very skilled staff. The well-being and happiness of your children is important to us. We recognise that settling into the routine of school will be challenging for some after such a lengthy absence from school.

Thank you for your continued amazing support. We are striving to get things right for everyone and welcome any feedback to improve things. Safety remains our priority. Please do not hesitate in contacting school if you have any queries.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jason Brooks', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jason Brooks
Headteacher