



May 15th, 2020

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Learn from Home: <https://www.nortoncollege.net/learnfromhome>

Safeguarding: <https://www.nortoncollege.net/safeguarding>

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Dear Parents and Carers,

Weekly update: May 15th

I hope my weekly letter finds you safe and well.

Below you will find a link to the College Keys. I'm sure you will have seen previous editions, but this one is very special as it is the first one we have released during the current closure. It is full of articles by both staff and students and has a fantastic photograph of me practising my football skills. As you can see, I shall never play for England, although putting my coffee down might have helped. There are articles from the maths department, English, science, expressive arts, and sport (including a frightening photograph of Mr Triffit with no hair). Our students have written articles about life in lockdown, what they are doing and how they are coping. It is a great read and makes me proud to be a part of the Norton College family. I hope you will download a copy and enjoy it.

<https://www.nortoncollege.net/collegekeys>

National Voucher Scheme - we have noticed some improvement this last week with the Edenred system in relation to vouchers for families entitled to free school meals. We are aware that a few parents are not always downloading these. If you have tried and failed please let us know and we will offer help. If you have not yet tried, please be aware that the vouchers have a 1 month expiry date from the date of issue.

The news this week has been full of discussions about the reopening of schools for years 10 and 12. The DfE has provided more information for parents here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june>

I am sure that there will be anxiety about sending children back to school, and a great deal of uncertainty, and you will want to know, if you have children in years 10 or 12, how this might work at Norton College.

We are at the early stages of planning, and are awaiting more information from the DfE, and until we have clearer plans, it would be unhelpful to share our initial ideas as these will undoubtedly change over the coming days and weeks. I am in communication with the other Ryedale head teachers, and we are sharing our thinking and our ideas in order to put together the best possible plans that will ensure that staff and students are as safe as possible. Please be patient as we formulate our plans. At this point, I would like to draw your attention to the title on the webpage I



have linked above. It refers to opening **from** the 1st of June, not **on** the 1st of June, and we shall ensure that we are fully ready before we open to students, and we shall give you as much information and as much notice as we can. I shall be in touch with the parents and carers of Y10 and Y12 students again early next week.

Again for parents and carers of Y10 students, please note that the planned work experience won't go ahead this academic year and refunds will be processed at a later date.

College remains open and I would like to remind parents of key workers and of vulnerable children that you are able to send children to school, by prior arrangement with us. The latest update from the government is here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

If you do feel you need to send your children to school, please contact us so that we can discuss your circumstances.

Stay safe,

Dr S R Carson
Head teacher