



19 June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

It is difficult to believe that so many weeks have passed since we last saw so many of our students.

## Year 10

It was with great pleasure we welcomed Year 10 back into the Academy this week to meet their Year 11 Form Tutors and discuss their progress during the school closure. I hope you were able to see the briefing video this morning from Mrs Hardacre as she captured some clips of the students in school and of Tutors sending their best wishes to the Year 10 students joining their tutor groups. I was able to speak to them all and share my thoughts about this period of time in their education and encourage them to continue working hard.

## Academy Events and Dates for your Diary

We are now planning for a series of activities taking place during the last few weeks of this school year and these are the dates I would like to share with you:

1. **Friday, 26 June:** Year 10 Engagement reports sent home
2. **Week commencing 29 June:** Preferences confirmed to Year 8 students
3. **Week beginning 29 June:** Year 10 face-to-face sessions in English, Maths and Science begin. Details of this will be sent next week to Year 10 parents/carers. Again, students will be invited into the Academy at set times and in bubbles of 39 per day and split into groups of 13 students per room.
4. **Thursday, 2 July:** New Year 7 induction remote provision; please see our website as information builds daily in this section.
5. **Friday, 3 July:** Year 9 Engagement Reports sent home.
6. **Week beginning 6 July:** Virtual Trentham Olympics – look out for opening ceremony videos and daily challenges for each year group. 'Live' finals will be shared through the week with points from all competitors and entries adding to our house competition.
7. **Friday, 10 July:** Year 7 and 8 Engagement Reports home

## Pastoral Care

Throughout this time, we will continue to contact families by telephone and Firefly. These calls and messages are now being made by your child's Form Tutor for 2020/21 academic year. If you require further information about the subject engagement for your child following the letters sent from the Academy this week, please take the opportunity to discuss this with Form Tutors when they call. Some staff may choose to make these calls from their own phones which will appear as no caller ID.



Headteacher: Mr M Whittingham BSc PGCE AST PGC Med NASENCO NPQH

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## Year 11

We have made provisional plans for GCSE results day on 20 August, and we anticipate students will be able to collect results from the Academy in the usual way, but we will await further guidance from the government before we share these as they may be subject to change.

## Support

During these difficult times, we recognise that the personal and financial circumstances of families may change. We would encourage families to apply for free school meals if they are facing financial challenges. Details can be found using this link:

[Free School Meals - Apply Online](#)

## Staffing Update

As we approach the end of the academic year, I would like to update you on the key staffing changes. As with every year we have a few staff that are leaving us for pastures new and we wish them the very best for their future endeavours.

Mr K Jones and Mr M Stone are leaving the P.E Department and I would like to thank them for their commitment to our Academy during their time with us. Mr Taylor, our Music Director, is retiring after a distinguished career and we thank him for his development of Choral Scholars and Musical performance in the last 2 years. Mrs Fullwood is leaving our SEN department for another role in the City having been at the Academy for 14 years. We thank her for her dedication and commitment to those students with extra needs. She has gone above and beyond to support them. Mrs Taylor will also sadly be leaving us at the end of this year gaining promotion in another school in the City. She will be sorely missed by our Academy Community, but we wish her the best of luck for her future. Mrs J Shaw, our P.E teacher of more than 30 Years at Trentham, has taken the decision to retire. Her dedication to our Academy Community has been amazing to see. I know she will be sorely missed by everyone. We are extremely grateful for the work all these staff have done for our students and parents/carers over the time they have been here and wish them every success and happiness in their new ventures.

We welcomed Mr J Davies, Teacher of English, at Easter and we will welcome several new staff to our Academy in September in the following roles: Miss E Stanway, Teacher of English; Mrs R Harris, Teacher of Music; Mrs R Howells, Teacher of Science; Mr M Rogalski, Head of Voyager and Teacher of PE and Miss M Roberts, Teacher of Mathematics. They are all excited about joining our community and looking forward to making a big impact next year.

There are some additional changes I would like to inform you of which involve our existing staff who have now moved into new roles with responsibilities in the pastoral team and they are excited to take on these new roles: Mrs E Hardacre, Progress Leader for Year 11; Mrs L Griggs, Progress Leader for Year 10 and Mr B Moss, Progress Leader for Pioneer.



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We also welcome Mrs C Hazel to the Senior Leadership Team as Assistant Headteacher. Mrs Hazel has held senior leadership posts in other schools and led the Computing and Enterprise courses here for the last 18 months having a considerable impact on our Academy Community. Mr B Goddard, who is the Deputy Director for Mathematics across the Trust, joins the Senior Leadership team at Trentham Academy as a Senior Leader, he is very excited at the opportunity of helping to shape our special Academy. Mrs E Wagg has now secured the Deputy Headteacher position in our Academy. She has shown such determination and resilience to support the Academy and is already having a fabulous impact on its developments.

### Senior Prefect Interviews

The senior prefect interviews have been taking place over the last week and will continue until Tuesday. I am so proud of the students taking part in these interviews. Our students have simply filled me with joy over the last week and I feel so proud to be Headteacher of this very special Academy. A decision will be made on the outcome of all the interviews and discussions on Wednesday, 24 June; we will then share this with successful students at the end of that week.

### Finally

If you have any queries or feedback for the Academy, please continue to use the [trentham@trenthamacademy.co.uk](mailto:trentham@trenthamacademy.co.uk) email address.

I would once again like to take this opportunity to thank you all for the tremendous support you have shown our staff and the Academy. Our staff are working relentlessly to create opportunities for further student engagement and we are adapting our approach and curriculum to support this. We are also continuing to develop our wider opening in conjunction with our Blended Learning Curriculum. The very positive feedback we have had regarding the Video Blogs from the Senior Team and staff are very much appreciated and we will continue to use this as another vehicle of support for students and parents. I shared an assembly on firefly as a task with all students to support them; please encourage them to engage with this and do discuss my assembly with them. In the meantime, I offer my warmest wishes to you and your families for your continued well-being.

Yours sincerely



**Mike Whittingham**  
Headteacher



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