



Bassingbourn Village College

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**Ms V Poulter
Principal**

1st September 2020

Dear parent/carer

I hope you have had an excellent summer holiday and had the chance to have a break from your work commitments to spend time with family and friends.

I am writing to update you on plans for our September reopening amongst other exciting developments that have taken place over the summer holiday for our school community.

Reopening in September

The academy risk assessment has been published on our school website and can be viewed [HERE](#)

Points to note regarding the risk assessment are as follows:

- This is a live, working document. It is being edited and amended at very regular intervals.
- The document has been signed off by Anglian Learning Trust and shared with trade unions.
- There are some factors which have not yet been completed and over the next few days a lot of actions will take place as plans are accelerated.
- There are actions that are being undertaken on a daily and sometimes hourly basis. Therefore, it is challenging to keep the document up to date.
- Due to the extensive nature of the document, we have created an FAQ section of our website for you and our students which can be found [HERE](#)

There are some changes to usual school procedures however the planning is based upon ensuring high quality educational outcomes whilst managing the risk as much as possible. We also believe that the changes we are implementing could seriously improve some operational logistics of school life that we have wanted to address for a significant period of time. One of these areas, for example, is an improved 'traffic flow system' for students whilst moving from lesson to lesson. The one-way system could seriously improve the flow of traffic to ensure an even sharper start to lessons.

If you have any questions about the risk assessment or our reopening plans, please visit our FAQ section on our website first. If your question is not listed, please complete a Google form which can be found [HERE](#). We will then share your question and our response with other parents on our FAQ page if we think that it is something that other parents may find useful.

Results and results days

The College held a successful GCSE results day on site during this month. It was a real success to undertake this 'face to face' and good preparation to test out some of our reopening plans for September. More importantly though, it was brilliant to see our students again, especially those who have been so affected by school closure and the cancellation of public examinations.

There were some outstanding achievements from all of our students and we remain exceptionally proud of the class of 2020 for their resilience, drive and calmness in an environment of immense external pressures and challenges. I wish all of these students who have graduated from Bassingbourn Village

College at the end of last academic year all the very best with their future ventures and hope that they remain in touch with the college.

Summer projects

Over the summer holiday, significant developments have taken place with the replacement plumbing and heating, updates to the student toilets, new lockers and IT facilities.

All of this work is extremely exciting and will start the journey of much needed improvement to our site and facilities so that they match the excellence of our students and education provision. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Anglian Learning Trust, who has been instrumental in securing the funding for these projects.

New staff

On behalf of the Anglian Learning, the governors of Bassingbourn and all staff, I would first like to thank the colleagues who moved onto new adventures and experiences at the end of last term. It was a very surreal time to leave a school and I cannot imagine how difficult it must have been. I would like to collectively thank them for all their effort, dedication and drive to ensure that our school continues to grow from strength to strength.

I would also like to welcome our new members of the team. We have managed to recruit an exciting group of new teachers, despite conducting some interview processes through lockdown, and I am delighted that they have joined the team. I am pleased to report that, despite the challenges of recruitment even without a world pandemic, we are fully staffed in all subjects.

Letter to students

I have written a letter to all students who will be on our roll from September which is attached to this Parentmail. I would very much appreciate it if you could share my letter with your child/ren before they return. I cannot imagine how strange it must feel to be returning to school after the past seven months, with no definitive end in sight to the virus as yet. However, I hope my words will go some way to empathise with their situation and provide some reassurance.

We have also produced an information booklet for students and parents with details of our plans for return to school. Please can I ask all parents to go talk through this with their child and then to sign the home school agreement using this link <https://forms.gle/v7uHESCMXfvMjrTL6>

I would like to thank all parents for their support and patience of the past six months. You have all worked hard with the home learning experience. We are all looking forward to welcoming our school community back next week and helping them to move forward with their learning.

Finally, a reminder that our new year 7 students start back with us on Monday 7th September, with the remaining students in year 8 to 11 returning on Tuesday 8th September.

Yours sincerely



Ms V Poulter
Principal