



Twynham Learning

Chief Executive Officer: Mr Gareth Morris BA (Hons), PGCE, NPQH, M(Ed)

Chair of Trustees: Mr Douglas Croucher

17th June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Update on Twynham Learning Schools

I am writing to provide an update following recent Government announcements around the re-opening of schools and summer provision. Whilst it is easy to read about 'lost generations' in the press, may I assure you that your children are most definitely not lost to us. We are working hard to ensure the gaps don't widen and to put plans in place for the coming months to continue to do our very best for our school communities.

As many of you would imagine, responding to the changing Government position and guidelines has been problematic with plenty of twists and turns. As a Trust we have tried to take a measured and sustainable approach to continuing to deliver services.

Re-opening of Schools

Having now been given more freedom to take our own decisions about which primary pupils to have in school, Trust leaders have reviewed our current capacity and believe that we need to move to a **wider model of opening** within the primary phase schools which can accommodate:

- the high demand for key worker provision
- the distance learning offer
- in-school teaching and learning

It is important to us as a Trust that we approach this fairly and ensure that all of our primary phase children get some level of direct input over the final weeks of term. We will be blending our distance learning with in-school assessment, teaching and socialisation activities which, if required, could provide a sustainable model for next academic year.

We are aiming to have a phased re-integration, starting with Year 5 from **Monday 22nd June**. It is highly likely that this will be part-time and some local variation may be necessary due to the range of settings that we have across our schools. School leaders will communicate directly with you over their specific plans.

Our secondary schools are also working hard to support all students and, particularly, to provide more concentrated input to give Year 10 and 12 students the best foundation for their examinations next year. Due to the Government's direction that only Year 10 and 12 pupils should attend school (and only 25% at any one time), our secondary schools are ensuring that they focus on distance-learning as this remains the predominant method of education for all year groups. However, they will ensure their provision matches the needs of students which, in some circumstances, means a blend of on-line and face-to-face teaching.

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Summer Holiday Provision

From September 2019 we piloted Two Rivers Childcare, based at Twynham Primary School. It is our intention to expand this across all the primary phase schools in Twynham Learning, providing high-quality, affordable and accessible childcare for those parents who need it. However, with this already being in place at one school, we have the capacity to offer an activity-based childcare provision for five weeks of the summer holiday. We are currently progressing this plan and will be sharing the details over the coming weeks.

We are also working with authorities (including BCP Council) to pre-plan ahead of announcements on the Government's proposed catch-up provision and intend to be in a position to deliver this.

Transforming Learning Communities Review

Throughout the COVID-19 crisis, whilst balancing the ever-changing needs of the current situation, we have kept an ambitious eye on the future. I am currently undertaking a Transforming Learning Communities Review across our schools to fully evaluate what we do and how effectively we do it.

Our aspiration is to develop our schools to become world-class; providing the very best opportunities for all of our students irrespective of their background. Our commitment is to not just provide excellent teaching and learning but also to ensure that we continue to offer and grow the holistic experiences which shape character and confidence. The review will last around twelve months and will look at education from 2-19 years old, involving a range of stakeholders. It will result in the delivery of the 'Twynham Learning Excellence Strategy' which will provide a clear and comprehensive picture for students, parents and staff about who we are and the expectations that we share for education within Twynham Learning. We will of course keep you updated as the review progresses.

Finally, I thank you for your patience and support throughout these changing times; it is much appreciated. Whilst we recognise that some of the new arrangements may not feel like the ideal solution for every family, they will mean that we can deliver a better provision for all children and families and do so in a way which is sustainable and equitable.

Kind regards



Gareth Morris
Chief Executive Officer