

# The De Montfort School

UNLOCKING YOUR CHILD'S POTENTIAL



Four Pools Road, Evesham, Worcestershire, WR11 1DQ | Telephone: 01386 442060

26 June 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

## Educational Provision – Year 10s – arrangements from Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2020

We have been very pleased with how well our Year 6 children returning, alongside our skeleton school, has been operating since 1<sup>st</sup> June and this week Miss Green and Mrs Green and some Year 10 tutors have been meeting each of our Year 10s individually.

These meetings have been very helpful in determining where some students have been struggling to come to terms with the demands of home learning and what extra support they need.

We have been trying very hard to identify some provision possible for our Year 10s, given how many other children we have already had in the school.

We have had to submit rigorous risk assessments throughout the process and we are delighted that we have now received approval for the following proposal regarding Year 10s.

- Each Year 10 student will be assigned to a single day in school each week, between Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June and Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2020
- Each student will be assigned to either Group A or Group B
- Group A will be in DU1 and Group B in DU2
- **Timings of arrival, departure and lunch are strict** to prevent Groups A and B from mixing and to ensure they have no contact at all with any of the groups already in school
- **Social distancing will be observed so all students will remain 2m apart at all times**

We will be in touch to let you know which day/group your child is going to be in.

Please see timings below:

Day	Arrival	Session 1	Lunch	Session 2	Exit
Monday Group A	10.00 a.m.	10.05 a.m.	12.15 p.m.	12.30 p.m.	1.15 p.m.
Monday Group B	10.15 a.m.	10.20 a.m.	12.30 p.m.	12.45 p.m.	1.30 p.m.
Tuesday Group A	10.00 a.m.	10.05 a.m.	12.15 p.m.	12.30 p.m.	1.15 p.m.
Tuesday Group B	10.15 a.m.	10.20 a.m.	12.30 p.m.	12.45 p.m.	1.30 p.m.
Wednesday Group A	10.00 a.m.	10.05 a.m.	12.15 p.m.	12.30 p.m.	1.15 p.m.
Wednesday Group B	10.15 a.m.	10.20 a.m.	12.30 p.m.	12.45 p.m.	1.30 p.m.
Thursday Group A	10.00 a.m.	10.05 a.m.	12.15 p.m.	12.30 p.m.	1.15 p.m.
Thursday Group B	10.15 a.m.	10.20 a.m.	12.30 p.m.	12.45 p.m.	1.30 p.m.
Friday Group A	10.00 a.m.	10.05 a.m.	12.15 p.m.	12.30 p.m.	1.15 p.m.
Friday Group B	10.15 a.m.	10.20 a.m.	12.30 p.m.	12.45 p.m.	1.30 p.m.

Headteacher: Guy Nichols BSocSC (Econ), NPQH

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## Some questions and answers

### **1. How will the time (3 hours) be used?**

Each student will have a computer work station and will therefore be able to access all of our home learning. The DU rooms have the IT Technicians nearby, so we can provide some (social distanced) support should your child experience any difficulties accessing the work in school.

There will be a member of staff there to assist and to ensure everyone is working, but we will not, at this stage, be able to provide any direct subject specific support.

### **2. Does my child have to attend their allocated day?**

No, remember this is your decision and if you are not yet happy to send your child back to school, you do not have to. Having said that we have put in place rigorous procedures and we would encourage your child to take full advantage of this opportunity.

### **3. Will my Year 10 child still get work provided for the days when they are not in school?**

Yes, the school will continue to provide some work on line and our video lesson schedule for all Year 10 students

### **4. What happens if my child has video lessons on the same day?**

That's no problem at all, if they have headphones, they come into school for their day and they just log in to the video lesson at their computer work station and still use the chat facility as well.

### **5. What will happen regarding breaks and lunchtimes?**

**We ask that your child brings a packed lunch with them.**

Group A and Group B will have different lunchtimes. We apologise that the lunch slot is very short, but this is, I'm afraid, to avoid any contact with any of the other groups. The Year 10s will not be able to play on our normal play equipment. They will be able to pass a football as long as they do not use their hands. We will provide the football. We will be able to chat with their friends within their specific class group, but at the 2m social distance.

Please note that we will provide a packed lunch for those children eligible for a **Free School Meal**.

### **6. What will happen regarding toilets and hand washing?**

There is a male and a female toilet in the DT Block. We intend to follow the government guidelines on hand washing on a regular basis and therefore students will wash their hands at the start of each day and, of course, after visiting the toilet. Students will also use anti-bac after visiting the toilet. Students will be using the Sixth Form facilities, as their hand wash facilities when they arrive and when they leave school.

### **7. What about arrival and exit each day?**

To maximise safety and the opportunity for social distancing, our Year 10s will enter and exit by the lower gate. This is the gate that has been their exit during normal times.

Please note that it is **important that your child arrives at the right times** to avoid any contact with the other Year 10 group and the Year 6 group (6a5) that use this entrance/exit at 9.30 a.m. and 2 p.m.

**We cannot accommodate children outside of these times (either earlier or later) for safety reasons.**

### **8. Should my child be wearing a face mask when they return to school?**

Although in September guidance may be different, current guidance says that the wearing of face masks for staff and children returning to school is not recommended at this time. However, we will, of course, review the school's position on the wearing of masks, if the guidance changes. The critical messages we all need to abide by are regarding the need to social distance and the effective and frequent washing of hands.

### **9. Will my child need to wear school uniform?**

No, not for these sessions. Just appropriate, comfortable clothing, please.

### **10. How will the school deal with any poor behaviour, in particular any children who completely disregard social distancing instructions?**

So far, all the children who have returned have behaved extremely well and followed instructions. We are in exceptional times and social distancing has to be observed for everyone's safety. Therefore, any poor behaviour by

any Year 10s will not be tolerated and your child would be sent home or have to be collected immediately. From then on, they would need to work at home using the home learning work being provided.

**11. What about safety (social distancing) to and from school?**

Although, so far, the children have been observing social distancing, this does remain a big concern for us at TDMS. In addition, teenagers naturally find it very difficult to maintain social distancing when not being monitored.

We will, therefore, constantly remind our Year 10s of the very real risks of further transmission of the virus, if they do not stay apart and we would ask that you insist upon the same, so we are all delivering the same message.

**Any parent/carer that does decide to pick up your Year 10 child will need to socially distance outside the designated entrance/exit for their child. Please do avoid picking up your child unless you believe it to be essential.**

Our Year 10s will need to make their way quickly and directly home and not hang around for their friends. We have been asked to try to minimise our need for public transport, as there are major demands from the much younger children and certain other schools which are really reliant on it.

**12. What happens if my child falls ill during the day?**

Your child will be taken to an area where they can be kept isolated. You will be contacted immediately with a view to getting your child collected as a matter of urgency or to obtain your permission for your child to make their own way home.

**Parents must not send their child into school if they feel unwell.**

**Please ensure we have up to date emergency numbers when you complete the form.**

**13. What do I need to do next?**

Ensure that your child is absolutely clear regarding their timings. Continue to encourage them to attend any on line lessons and complete the on line work that has been and continues to be provided by the staff.

We would like to commend the exceptional behaviour of the children, as well as extend my thanks to our staff for making it possible. We would also like to thank you for your support throughout this process of our slowly, but safely getting our children back into The De Montfort School.

Please do continue to take care and remember we are here to support you and your child through this difficult time.

Yours sincerely



Guy Nichols