

Pendle Community High School & College

Rated Outstanding in all areas Ofsted \$

Oxford Road, Nelson
Lancashire. BB9 8LF
01282 682260
reception@pchs.lancs.sch.uk

www.pchs.lancs.sch.uk

Headteacher: Dr C Lingard (Mrs)
Deputy Headteacher: Miss J Bayliss
Deputy Headteacher: Miss D Grogan

11 May 2020

Dear Parent/Carers

I hope you and your family are well and managing some form of routine in this 'new normal' that we continue to negotiate our way through. As you will be aware, Boris Johnson - Prime Minister spoke last night and has set out the 'road map' moving forward which indicates that unfortunately we are still some distance away from all students returning to PCHSC full time. Whilst we continue to advocate that children are definitely safest at home, school does remain open on a skeleton staffing rota for children of critical workers, particularly vulnerable families and now parents who have to go out to work in order to get paid.

We are currently awaiting some further guidance from the Government and LCC in relation to what we are allowed to do and when. Our biggest issue remains social distancing – which is virtually impossible with many of our students who don't or can't appreciate this. This is a major issue on the school buses who currently can only transport 3x students at once on a 15 seater minibus, in order to comply with the 2 meter distance rule. In addition, we would also require PPE for all students who require assistance with personal care, feeding etc, which we have ordered but not yet received.

In terms of actively supporting families, we are currently offering weekly class zoom meetings (Tuesdays) which we would encourage you to help your child join if at all possible. In addition, we are hoping to be able to offer a range of staff led interactive activities via a zoom timetable, from later this week. Please do ensure you remain up-to-date with the information on our website, as this is the place that PCHSC uses to communicate with and update parents/carers, and share important resources, activities etc.

Our school business team have done their best to provide concessionary Free School Meal vouchers for those who are entitled to this – although the system did take a while to get up and running. However, in addition Pendle Borough Council have set up the Pendle Community Support Hub as crucial service for vulnerable residents who don't have any family or friends nearby. The Hub is open Monday to Friday 9am to 4pm and 10am to 3pm Saturday and Sunday. If you, or a vulnerable person you know, could do with some help you can get in touch by emailing helpneeded@pendle.gov.uk or calling (01282) 661743. If you require further personalised support – please do contact school and we will do our best to respond as soon as we are able.

I will write to you later in the week once further information is available regarding any potential phased reopening. In the meantime if you do have any significant needs in relation to supporting your child, please let us know. Also if you as parents do fall into the category of having to return to building/construction or other essential work from this week and you have no other childcare, please can you provide us with a headed letter from your employer confirming this, so we can start to plan accordingly.

Please keep safe and well, and be kind to yourselves.

Best wishes

Chris Lingard - Headteacher











