



Fairlands Middle School

Caring and Inspirational



25 June 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

You may have seen my letter to Year 8 families this week outlining our plans to get Year 8 pupils back into school for an afternoon per week from next week onwards. This follows the updated DfE guidance which states:

Where schools have capacity, they may choose to welcome back additional pupils. It is up to schools to decide which pupils to prioritise, based on their knowledge of their children and communities. They may choose to welcome back pupils in another year group. Where middle schools choose to invite year 8 pupils back, they should be confident they can manage this within the strict measures we have asked primary schools to adopt (including no more than 15 in a class, and consistency of these groups).

I am delighted that we have been able to secure this opportunity to work more closely on transition, as well as being able to say goodbye to them. It does, unfortunately, mean that we will not be able to welcome back pupils from Years 5 and 7.

I know that this will be extremely disappointing to you and most importantly the pupils. As a result, I have asked tutors to increase the regularity of contact through telephone calls and Microsoft Teams tutor meetings. I have also asked teachers, as shared in my previous letter, to ensure home learning is a little different and varied, with video messages and voice over presentations, etc. to try to keep pupils engaged over the next few weeks.

I am extremely mindful that this will have a significant impact upon the pupils. As such, we are working on plans to try to get them back as a priority in September, as well as considering how the first few weeks of learning might look like for them after such a long period away from school and school routines.

Yours sincerely

Stefan McHale
Headteacher



Fairlands Middle School

Masons Way, Cheddar, Somerset, BS27 3PG, Tel: (01934) 743186 Fax: (01934) 744457 Absence Line: (01934) 743908
E-Mail: office@fairlandsmiddleschool.co.uk Website: www.fairlandsmiddleschool.co.uk

Headteacher: Stefan McHale
Deputy Headteachers: Helen Heffernan and Kate Persaud
Associate Leaders: Robert Cooling and Matthew Vincent SENDCo

Safeguarding Children is everyone's responsibility.

If you are worried about any child please make an appointment to see either Helen Heffernan, Designated Safeguarding Lead or Robert Cooling, Felicity Grant, Sally Virgin, Designated Safeguarding Deputies
Alternatively, you can phone NPSCC: 0808 800 5000 Somerset Direct: 0300 123 2224