

From: Andrew Fleck BSc, MA  
*Principal*



**SEDBERGH  
SCHOOL**

FOUNDED 1525

18 May 2020

Dear Parents

The Prime Minister's message on Sunday evening and the documentation that followed on Monday provides us with direction in the next phase of the recovery from the current lockdown. We all wish to return to full School operation as swiftly as possible but recognise this will not happen before September and that much work is required between now and then to ensure the School operates effectively and as safely as possible.

Parents of pupils in Sedbergh Prep School have already received a letter about our plans for pupils in Reception and Years 1 and 6. Our letter today is a response to the Government's statement that "We will ask secondary schools to offer some face-to-face support to supplement the remote education of Year 10 and Year 12 students who are due to take key exams next year" and sets out the work we are doing to prepare for pupils' return at the earliest possible stage.

We recognise the urgency to provide for pupils who are currently studying exam syllabuses and the importance of direct contact with Teachers. Having surveyed pupils and parents, we are pleased that there is so much positive feedback about our teaching provision and Tutorial support which is considerably greater than that which other pupils are receiving. Therefore, having considered the complexity of bringing pupils back to Sedbergh for a short period of time on a reduced timetable, we have reached the conclusion that the best plan is to continue with our programme of Remote Learning for the second half of Term. We know that this will be disappointing to pupils who wish to see their friends at School and hope that you will understand the delicate balance between our collective desire to return to normal, and prudent pragmatic decision-making.

Should you wish to discuss this, please don't hesitate to contact the Headmaster, Mr Harrison ([hmooffice@sedberghschool.org](mailto:hmooffice@sedberghschool.org)).

Separately, we have embarked on detailed planning for the return of pupils. We are drawing on advice received from the successful management of the pandemic in New Zealand, SE Asia and guidance from the Department of Education and our School Doctor. We will provide you with details of these plans during the second half of Term and before the Summer holiday. They focus on the following:

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1. The safe return to School of staff and pupils including providing for the two-week quarantine required for pupils returning from overseas.
2. Social distancing throughout the School:
  - a) in classrooms and corridors,
  - b) during sport and extra-curricular activities,
  - c) in the Boarding Houses.
3. Hygiene and cleaning routines.
4. The ability to test for Covid-19 and trace contacts if necessary.
5. Arrangements in the event of a member of the community becoming infected.

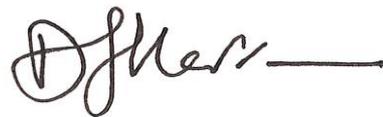
As we progress this work, it would be immensely helpful to receive feedback from parents about other matters which we should consider. In the event that you would like to provide any feedback, please do contact the Principal ([principal@sedberghschool.org](mailto:principal@sedberghschool.org)).

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely



Andrew Fleck  
Principal



Dan Harrison  
Headmaster