24th June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you are all well. It has been such a pleasure welcoming Y10 and Y12 students on site. Staff members have commented on how joyful it has been to meet with students. We have used the 1-2-1 sessions as a wellbeing check and a chance to reflect on learning so far.

I am writing to update you all on our plans for the final few weeks of term. Please read through it carefully as there is a lot of important information about our remote learning provision and how we plan to prepare students before the summer break.

**Y10 & Y12 timetables for small group teaching starting from 29th June**

If your son/daughter is in Y10 or Y12 and you have said that you wish for them to access our on-site provision you will be emailed details of the day and time that your son/daughter will attend lessons. You will receive this email by Thursday 25th June.

It is important that you son or daughter brings their books & equipment needed for the lesson that they have that day. They will also need their organiser as we will use the mini whiteboard and the traffic light cards during the socially distanced lessons.

If for any reason your son or daughter cannot attend lessons that day, then please inform us using the usual absence reporting procedures.

**Y7-9 tutorial touchpoint opportunity starting 3rd July**

Last week the government shared the following guidance where they state ‘where possible, schools may invite pupils in other year groups in for a meeting before the end of this term, where it would be beneficial’

As a result, we are offering students in Y7-9 the opportunity to come in from the 6th of July for a one off, 45 minute socially distant tutorial touchpoint. This opportunity will be a chance for students to have a wellbeing check, get set up for summer learning and of course re-connect with the INA site and staff physically. If you would like your son or daughter to attend this one-off session, please can you let Ms Patel know by emailing info@isaacnewtonacademy.org by 2pm on Friday 26th June.

**Online interaction using MS Teams for Y7-10 students**

We have been trialling the use of MS Teams with students in Y12 to support with our online learning provision. We understand that for some students having a full day of lessons may be a challenge due to the digital demands of such an approach. As a result, we will offer the following to students:
• All Y7-9 students will have the opportunity to attend a virtual celebration assembly in the final week of term. This is a chance for students to come together virtually and for students in these groups to have the chance to experience using MS Teams.
• Y10 & Y12 students will have the opportunity to have one online touchpoint per subject a week. We are starting from the 29th of July and all subjects will be available from the 6th of July. We will use this as an opportunity to support with any learning misconceptions and ensure that students are set up fully for summer learning.

You will be emailed a timetable for the online session times. It is important that you ensure that your child attends these sessions as this is an excellent chance for students to access their learning with their teacher present.

Please ensure your child can access their school outlook account as the invitations for the sessions can only be sent to their school outlook account. You will find details of how to access their outlook account via Edmodo. If you have any issues with accessing this please let us know and one of the team will support with this.

Some key safeguarding points around MS Teams:

• Teachers will never ask to chat 1 to 1 unless this has been agreed and organised with parents in advance
• Teachers will never schedule a lesson outside normal school hours
• Teachers and students are expected to always use professional language
• Sessions will always be recorded by the teacher and all chat history is preserved
• The video function will not be used
• Lessons will always be organised in advance
• Students will not be asked to share personal details e.g. phone number
• If students are ill or indisposed (unable to work due to family situation etc.) then the staff member should be informed in advance

If students do not feel comfortable with something that has happened in one of your online lessons then let us know by emailing safeguarding@isaacnewtonacademy.org

Summer Learning

We appreciate that the last 13 weeks have been incredibly challenging; families may have suffered bereavements, there may have been significant financial worries and the loss of routine has had a huge impact for us all. We understand that some of the summer break will be needed for students and families to work on their overall wellbeing.

We also know that extended breaks from learning impacts on student progress and in ‘normal’ years we would set learning for students to complete over the six-week summer break. Given that we have had an extended period away from school the summer learning is even more critical. Summer learning will be available on the school website from the 17th of July and students should use this as an opportunity to ensure that they are in the best possible position for September 2020.

Please do let us know if you have any questions by emailing us at info@isaacnewtonacademy.org or sixthform@isaacnewtonacademy.org.
With best wishes,

Sugra Alibhai,
Senior Vice Principal,
Isaac Newton Academy