5th June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you and your families are all safe and well.

I want to begin by sharing that we have issued a statement following the tragic death of George Floyd. The statement can be found here.

We understand that this may be upsetting for members of our student community and in more normal circumstances we would have the opportunity to discuss this with students face to face. Our upcoming BRIDGES lessons will give students the opportunity to explore the issues surrounding his death. If any student would like to speak to a member of staff about this they are welcome to contact their form tutor or Pastoral Leader.

This letter is quite lengthy and has important details about our reopening plans.

**Our provision this half term**
The Government confirmed that from June 15th, secondary schools can offer some face-to-face teaching and support in school to Year 10 and Year 12 students. We are really looking forward to having students from these year groups back at school and being able to see them in person. However, as with all secondary schools, our remote learning provision will continue to be the main form of education that students receive.

If your child is already attending our Community Classrooms for key worker and vulnerable students, they can continue to do so regardless of which year group they are in. If your child has specific health vulnerabilities, they should not come to school. Further details are available here.

Our plans to begin providing some school-based education is as follows:

- June 8th - Secondary Community Classrooms launch for key worker and vulnerable students
- June 15th - Staff training
- June 16th - Year 10 & Year 12 1-2-1 tutorial provision begins
- w/c June 29th - Small group teaching for Year 10 & Year 12 begins

We have done a great deal of detailed work to put in place the measures needed to make school as safe as it can be for our pupils and staff. In line with government guidance, no more than 25 per cent of the year groups who can come to school are permitted to be in at any one time, and they must sit two metres apart from each other. Ensuring sufficient distance between pupils is likely to mean classes are no more than half their usual size.
At INA this means:

- Year 10 students will be attending school once a week and, following the 1-2-1s, will access their core subjects of Maths, English and Science.
- Year 12 students will be attending school each week and will have access to each of their subjects over the week. They will attend up to four sessions over the week.
- There will be no more than 10 students for each Year 12 group.
- There will be no more than 12 students for each Year 10 group. In Year 10 there will be no mixing of students when we move to small group teaching.
- Our staff body will either be interacting with students in the Community Classrooms or Year 10 or Year 12 students.

More details around our 1-2-1 tutorials and the small group teaching sessions will be issued in our parent handbook which we will share next week.

**Key information for parents of students attending the Community Classrooms from Monday 8th June**

Ms Jones has been in touch with parents this week with this information, however I wish to highlight the following:

**Timings:** Students in Community Classroom 1 are to arrive at 8:35am and will be dismissed at 3:20pm. Students in Community Classroom 2 are to arrive at 8:45am and will be dismissed at 3:30pm. The staggered start times are in place to support social distancing and allow sufficient time for handwashing. Students **must** arrive on time to support with the safety measures we have put in place around staggered arrivals.

**Uniform:** Students are expected to wear their school trousers and their school shirt. School footwear must be worn. Students in the Community Classroom should not wear their tie or blazer. Furthermore, they should not bring or wear their lanyard string but **must have their card with them**.

**Equipment:** Students should bring their equipment for the remote learning lessons they would have that day. Students must bring their own water bottle. For hygiene purposes we will not be able to share resources between students.

**Medicines:** We have been in touch with families and reminded parents to ensure that students bring any required medication when they return on the 8th June. If your child has had a change in circumstances and is now taking medication please contact Ms Patel, Office Manager by email and ensure that your child brings the medication in on the 8th of June.
Lunch and break times: We will provide students with food at break and lunch times. It is worth noting that break and lunch times will involve social distancing measures and students will have approximately 30 minutes outside. We appreciate that this is going to be an adjustment for students but it is imperative in keeping everyone safe. Each Community Classroom is its own group and there will not be any mixing of staff or students between these groups.

Contacting us: Whilst social distancing measures are in place we are unable to accept parents or carers for face to face meetings. This is because we need to limit the number of different individuals on site. We will not be able to accept questions via main reception so please email any queries to info@isaacnewtonacademy.org or sixthform@isaacnewtonacademy.org or call us on 020 8911 6666.

Keeping us informed of your plans
The strict arrangements to ensure everyone stays safe are based on the numbers of students we know are planning to come into school. Thank you for letting us know your plans around sending your child into school as this has helped us plan for the first stages. If families would like to send their child into school we ask that you let us know by the Thursday of the week before you wish them to join the in school provision.

Ensuring we keep ourselves and other safe
We all have a role to play to stop the spread of infection and we must all continue to follow the NHS guidance. If any student has symptoms of Coronavirus, however mild, they must not come to school. If a student shows any symptoms at school, we will contact their parents or carers so we can send them home. Anyone with symptoms must self-isolate and stay at home for at least 7 days from when the symptoms started and they should immediately arrange to have a Coronavirus test. Everyone in the household of someone with symptoms must stay at home for 14 days, or until they receive a negative test result - they should not go to work, school or use public transport or taxis. Nobody should go out, even to buy food or other essentials, and any exercise must be taken at home.

If a student’s test is negative, they can come back to school. If the test is positive, they cannot come back to school until they have recovered, the minimum time they must stay at home is 7 days. If your child has a Coronavirus test, you must let us know the result as soon as possible. If the test is positive, we will need to advise everyone in their class group to stay home for 14 days.

All the information about what to do if you have symptoms is available the Government website here.

At school, we will make sure that students follow the strict hygiene measures required and that they wash their hands often. Please make sure that your child understands how important it is for everyone to wash their hands regularly for 20 seconds using soap and water and that they cough and sneeze safely into a tissue or their elbow.
This has been a very unsettling time for everyone. We know that some of our students may be anxious about coming back into school, some may have had relatives who have been ill with the virus, others may have been bereaved. We will do our very best to make sure that all students are supported and enjoy returning to doing some learning at school. Please do let us know if your child might need some extra help and support.

Our teachers and school staff have worked incredibly hard to put all of the measures needed in place to make our school safe, we really appreciate your patience and understanding whilst we made our plans. If you need any further information, please let me know, I look forward to seeing some children back at school very soon. In the meantime, please do encourage your child to continue with their home learning.

Yours faithfully,

Sugra Alibhai

Senior Vice Principal