

CANFORD

Canford School

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From the Headmaster
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12th June 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

Further to my previous communication at half term on planning for reopening, we have continued to monitor the situation carefully. I am sure you will have been following the heated debates amongst politicians, in the press and more widely also. Views and responses are many and varied from experts, schools and other commentators, and I am sure the views on this will be equally diverse in our own school community.

We have considered a range of factors in our decision making including ongoing uncertainty over the C-19 risk, practical issues with current risk mitigation measures, the quality of our online educational provision, the very short timescale to the end of our term, the very tight restrictions on the numbers of pupils from designated year groups (Yr10/12) who could return at this point and the **extremely limited** programme which might be offered without any boarding or co-curricular. On balance we feel that it remains sensible to focus our reopening planning efforts on September when we can all prepare ourselves psychologically and practically for the start of the new school year which we hope sincerely will be in a much more recognisable format and environment.

As things stand we are planning to open for **all pupils** across **all year groups** in September (if permitted to do so by the Government). We aim to deliver as high quality and enriching an education as possible within the framework of any guidelines set out. We will work very hard to ensure the warmth and strength of the Canford Community remains fundamental to life here. Of course, the health and wellbeing of everyone in our community will be paramount and all our plans will be laid against a backdrop where we seek to mitigate risk for pupils and staff as far as is reasonable and with due attention to any guidelines.

Having done some high level thinking and planning over the past two weeks we are about to commence our detailed planning process for September reopening and we feel it is vital that you have the opportunity at this early stage to outline any major concerns and priorities you might have so we can build this into our thinking and planning where possible and appropriate. We will seek to consult further on the more detailed draft plan in early July.

Please do share any thoughts you would like us to consider via the survey link below, by 4pm on Tuesday 16th June.

[Canford reopening – Parent Survey](#)

Thank you for your ongoing support in this difficult time.

Kind regards,

Ben Vessey