

Headteacher: **Mr P. Quirk**

Brierley Avenue, Failsworth, Manchester, M35 9HA
Tel: 0161 688 3900



Co-op Academy
Failsworth

May 2020

Dear Year 10 Parents / Carers

Following the announcement made by the Prime Minister on Sunday 10th May, and subsequent updates received since then, I have started to develop plans on how we may provide face-to-face provision for all Year 10 students to support their home learning. I am aware of the anxieties that you will undoubtedly have with regards to the missed learning time for Year 10 students as well as the safety of your children if we re-open, at the very earliest, on the 1st June.

The Government has laid out 5 key tests which must be met in order for schools to re-open. If they do not meet all 5 tests then there will be no opening of any school or academy and any re-opening plans will be delayed. In addition, any decision to open, even if the Government is happy they have met their 5 key tests, lies with myself as the Headteacher supported by the Academy Trust. If we are not certain we can keep the risk to all students and staff at a minimum, then I will not be prepared to open. I am aware that home learning is no substitute for being in school but I am sure you understand that the safety of both students and staff is of the utmost importance and will always take priority.

I have been working on a number of models that will give all Year 10 students face-to-face contact with their teachers once per week. This will help to cover their curriculum and bolster their home learning and would involve breaking Year 10 into small groups so that we can keep the number of students on site, at any one time, to a minimum. However, I cannot provide any exact dates and details at the moment as safety for both students and staff is paramount.

We are currently operating safely with groups of 5 students to a room, for key workers and vulnerable students, and we are reassured we can do this. However, we need to assess if this would be possible to maintain with increased numbers. Over the coming days I will continue to work on my plans for re-opening the school and I will update you with more logistical details next week.

Thank you for your continuing support and understanding at this unprecedented time.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'P. Quirk'.

Phill Quirk
Headteacher