

Vision: To inspire students to become **confident, ethical and compelling** individuals with the aspiration and qualities to shape a **better future for all.**

Values: Respect, Responsibility, Curiosity and Resilience



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Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you very much to all of you for working so hard to ensure that your children have returned to school in a positive frame of mind and showing great care for the health and safety of others. We are so proud of how our students have responded to the challenges of the first few week of term.

Attendance at school is fundamental to the future life chances of all young people. It is even more vital than ever that after the 'lockdown' period that no more learning time is lost. Research has shown that missing 10% of a school year (19 days) will negatively affect a students' academic performance and future life chances. Attendance below 90% will affect GCSE results, references, the ability to get onto college courses, self-esteem and future earnings. For these reasons we would urge you to work with the school to get your children to school everyday.

There are some key questions that need to be asked before a young person stays at home. Would you have kept your child off school before Covid19?

Does your child have an underlying chronic medical condition? If the answer is no, then your child should come to school as normal. If the answer is yes, you will need to take specialist advice. In the vast majority of cases young people are better off at school.

FHS has made strenuous efforts to ensure that all students are safe on site. Students are "bubbled" on arrival at school; they are asked to sanitise on entry to the school and on entry to all rooms; the start of the day, breaktimes, lunchtimes, and the end of the days are staggered so that the "bubbles" do not come into contact. All students sanitise before eating food. Students are asked to wear masks when moving around the school one way system.

Our students have been incredibly mature about following these guidelines and helping to keep all members of the community safe.

If you still have concerns about encouraging your child to attend school after reading this letter, please feel free to contact me on john.whitehead@foresthigh.org.uk.

Yours faithfully

J.P. Whitehead
Headteacher