



Castle Donington College

Principal: Mrs Julie Sheppard

Vice-Principal: Mr Nathan Barratt
Assistant Principal: Mr Ben Wilkinson

6th July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

The past few months have been the biggest challenge we've ever faced in education, indeed, the biggest challenge for all aspects of life. Your support throughout the last few months has been very much appreciated.

Guidance relating to next term issued last week by the Department for Education confirms that we will be welcoming all pupils in all years back next term.

As I am sure you can appreciate, we want to get everything right for the new academic year. Leicestershire schools officially finish on Friday. We have already started planning for our return but it will be impossible for us to inform parents as to the precise details of our return at this stage. There is an immense amount of work still to do. Even though we have tried to 'second-guess' what the guidance would be, we now have to work through the detail very carefully to ensure we keep everyone as safe as possible from the outset.

At some point over the next few weeks, we will be sending information to you outlining our plan. This will be in advance of the new term and by email. Information will also be published on the College website. <https://www.cdcollege.uk/> Information will include our plans regarding pupil drop-offs and collection, school transport, COVID-related health information, risk mitigation plans, organisation of the school day, equipment, uniform and arrangements for break and lunchtime amongst other things.

Naturally, we would love to be able to send you all the details today, but we want to get it right and this takes time. I am sure you understand the difficult position Leicestershire schools are in with our holiday pattern, even more so than other areas of the country. As soon as we have finalised plans, we will ensure all parents are made fully aware.

We have been advised by the Local Authority that pupils should not return before the 26th August to support our preparation and planning for staff and buildings, in line with the DfE guidance. They have offered flexibility to push back the start date if we feel it is appropriate. We therefore can confirm our current plan will remain, unless, due to unforeseen circumstances, we are unable to open as planned. Our dates for the autumn term are outlined below.

Monday 24 th August	Staff Training Day
Tuesday 25 th August	Staff Training Day (Change to published dates)
Wednesday 26 th August	Year 7 Induction Day (Change to published dates)
Thursday 27 th August	College Open to all Pupils (Change to published dates)

I will be in touch before our return and hope you have a restful summer break.

Best wishes

Julie Sheppard

Principal

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