



Update for Parents: Tuesday 2nd June 2020

This update explores:

DfE Guidance re some face-to-face contact for Y10 from Monday 15th June

- **Y10 LIVE online lessons – Noadswood goes live into your homes!**
- **Government Guidance for Parents and Carers**
- **Y7-9 Educational Provision**
- **Community Survey**
- **Student Survey**
- **Interhouse Competitions**
- **Stationery Top Up**
- **Music lessons**

Details from the DfE Guidance re: some face-to-face contact for Y10 from Monday 15th June:

As explained last week, Headteachers were issued with Department for Education guidance on Monday 25th May 2020 about some face-to-face support required to take place in secondary schools for students in Year 10 from Monday 15th June 2020. All of this is subject to the Government's 5 tests regarding the management of the Coronavirus continuing to be met.

We are excited to be welcoming more students back on to the site – we've missed them, apart from all the other considerations! – and we will do so with absolute adherence to the guidance with which I have been issued.

Key points from the secondary guidance are as follows:

- Secondary schools should offer this face-to-face support to supplement the remote education of Year 10 pupils, which should remain the predominant type of provision during at least this term (for us, as with all of the schools and colleges across the New Forest group with whom I meet weekly, this will blend live lessons, interactive PowerPoints and similar and assignments set through Frog.)
- Schools are able to have a quarter of the Year 10 in school at any one time (For us, this is 48 students at a time).
- Vulnerable children and children of critical workers in other year groups should be accommodated as of now.
- Secondary schools should aim to practise social distancing in line with the measures the government is asking everyone to adopt in public and in workplaces, including keeping students 2 metres apart from each other wherever possible (We are writing our full risk assessment to include this and a host of health and safety measures which will be shared with you before Monday June 15th).

- Ensuring sufficient distance between pupils will mean group sizes at Noadswood of Y10s will be 12 maximum.
- Mixing between any different groups of pupils will be avoided in all our planning, and where rotas are used, secondary schools should avoid split day rotas within the same day and ensure that only a quarter of children are ever in the school on any one day. Our planning will reflect this.
- Vulnerable children and children of critical workers in all year groups should still be encouraged to attend full-time provision as now.

Our plans for this face-to-face support, blended with live online lessons and other remote learning, are taking shape, and we look forward to sharing them with you.

Live online lessons: Y10

In the meantime, thank you for the support you have provided to your sons and daughters so that we have had really super turn out at our live, online lessons so far this week. We hope your children have enjoyed these lessons, felt supported with their learning and felt that connection with some teachers again that is so important right now.

If your child hasn't yet joined these lessons, please refer them to the Frog Portal where all of their work is set. There, they should click on the Year 10 icon where they will find an instruction video by Mr Hewitt and a copy of the Live Lessons timetable – as you and they will see in the video, the system depends on students keeping a very close eye on their school email box. They will get an email which will advise them of the time of the lessons to which they are invited, and the links in the emails are personalised to the correct groups, so your son or daughter can't join the wrong class.

Should you have any questions about this provision, or any technical hitches, please don't hesitate to message Mr Hewitt or your child's House Leader or myself via ePraise so we can point you and your children in the right direction.

Link to the Government guidance for parents and carers:

The document has been updated for you in line with what I explained above and with the most up to date emphases in terms of guidance – worth a browse if you haven't looked at it before or in a while so that you understand why we and all the schools and colleges across the Forest are planning in exactly the way we are:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

Educational Provision: Y7-9

Provision for these year groups will continue to blend assignments with interactive PowerPoints, all assigned through the Frog Portal as usual. We wish so much we were at a point of being able to invite groups from other Year Groups into school, but I know we have your absolute support of working to the letter of the Government and Department for Education Guidance to keep our community as safe as possible.

Please repeat to your children that they can reach out to their teachers/ELSA/LSAs on ePraise at any time, or to me on ePraise or to headteacher@noadswood.hants.sch.uk and we will come right back to them. A student messaged me yesterday and I am going to give her a call over Microsoft Teams to talk through her worries about her learning. For some, that's the ideal. For others, ePraise or email will do the trick or maybe a phone call is their preference. All they need to do is reach out to someone and we will do the rest.

Lots of you have completed our **Community Survey** – thank you for doing so and more on this below – and Mr Crowley and I have read all of the comments. Some of you have touched on your children really benefiting when a tutor or teacher/House Leader or ELSA/LSA has reached out to them as an individual, for a check in and a boost, and that the reverse, has, obviously, been the case if your child has not received that personal contact, despite all the other info and group messaging there has been. I am grateful for the accurate feedback on our coverage of this part of our provision, and am pleased to tell you that, as a result of this survey, we are implementing a system of weekly personal check ins from the week beginning Monday June 8th for all students in Years 7-9.

For most children, it will be, as I say, an encouraging chat and a boost, but if they raise specific issues about their engagement with their learning or their wellbeing, the member of staff will either speak to you themselves or refer it to the correct colleague to do so. More on the detail of this system at the end of the week, when we have talked it through fully with colleagues.

Community Survey:

Around 65% of you have completed the Community Survey – thank you! As well as the follow up from this already in train as outlined above, we have also begun to put together further support for Year 11, as they grapple with their next steps from September and their uncertainty about all this.

On Frog, where all of the work is assigned, there is a Year 11 icon beneath which the students will find pre-reading materials for KS5 learning in a range of subjects that Noadswood departments have put together, as well as links to college information.

We will continue to populate this over the next few weeks with fresh information and ideas, along with a **weekly bulletin just for Year 11s** covering the following sorts of topics:

- Thoughts for the week from me and other Leadership Team members/House Leaders,
- Preparing for College – input from each of our local colleges,
- Careers and next step tips from Gordon Lewis,
- Tips to prepare to study each subject (one covered each week)
- Updates to keep the students in touch with matters specific to them such as Prom ideas (promised for a time when this will be safe to organise, whenever that will be), plans for their GCSE Outcomes Day in August etc,
- Noadswood Alumni inspirational stories

I want this to help sustain the amazing connection we have had with this year group for 5 years at a time when they need us in a unique way – they are NOT out of sight, out of mind, and we want to go all out to show them this.

Student Survey:

On Monday 8th June, we will be surveying the students on ePraise to gather their views about their remote learning, their wellbeing, what they've learnt about themselves and has gone well during lockdown. We will also ask them about the worries on their mind about their education and wellbeing, both in lockdown and about more time in school, when the time is right and safe for them, depending on their year group and Government guidance.

I can't wait to hear from them all and to come back to them and you with what's going well and the actions we will take in the light of their comments.

Interhouse Competitions: See Frog Portal

The House Leaders have been working hard to devise and coordinate a weekly schedule of Interhouse Competitions for all students to join in with, to create, online, the spirit of competition and fun we always have at Noadswood.



All your child needs to do is go on to the usual Frog Portal, and they'll see the icon about it at the top of the Home Page. Once they click on it, they'll see the details of the first competition which is to encourage the youngsters to use ePraise as much as possible by downloading the app, if they're able to, and to log in regularly to read messages to them and to reach out to teachers or other members of staff they'd like to connect with. As well as creating the spirit of competition between the houses, this will help with the all-important sustaining of adult/student relationships that is a real focus for us and of this update.

We'd love it if you'd support us and your children by prompting them to get on board with the competition each week, and I will promote it in my next letter to the students tomorrow.

Stationery Top-Up: Wednesday 3rd June 9.30-10.30am School Car Park

You may have seen on social media that on Wednesday 3rd June, we are hosting a drive through stationery collection opportunity. If your child is in need of a small stationery pack (exercise book, pen, pencil, rubber, paper, and a set of colouring pencils), we invite you to attend our drive through collection point. Mrs Loveday will be in the school car park between 9.30am and 10.30am to issue the packs.

In order to maintain social distancing guidelines, please do not get out of your car, and, obviously, this cannot be an opportunity for groups of students or parents to meet one another, or to go on to site to collect any of their property or books.

We have 80 packs available on this occasion and we want to ensure we are reaching our most vulnerable students and those families who would really benefit from these small extras, so if you're in that situation, please pop up to the school.

If you are unable to receive a pack on this occasion, but you really need one for your child(ren), please let Mrs Loveday know via ePraise and we will do what we can to help.



Music Lessons:

The instrumental teachers we work with at Noadswood are now offering online tuition for this half term at a cost of £40 which our Finance Manager, Mrs Drabble, has made available for you to pay online. There is also a Safeguarding document for you to read, to reassure you about how this would work in practice ([click here to access the document](#)). Lessons are available in:

- *Drums*
- *Woodwind*
- *Piano*
- *Voice*
- *Guitar*

If you would like your child to resume their music tuition, please could you make your payment using our online system, as usual, and then Mrs Drabble will pass on the information which you and your child will need to begin to access the remote learning and, of course, to liaise with the individual teachers.

If you have any questions about this, please pop them in an email to finance@noadswood.hants.sch.uk or to headteacher@noadswood.hants.sch.uk

Thank you for reading this letter through to the end!

I am thankful, indeed, for your communication with us, support of our school and inspiring us to be the best we can be for your children and each other, as these challenging times continue.

All the very best,

Kathryn Marshall and the Noadswood Leadership Team.