

21<sup>st</sup> May 2020

## Year 10 Provision

Dear Parents / Carers,

As you will be aware from the intense speculation in the media, the decision to open schools for specified year groups has proven to be controversial. At this stage, the expectations from the DfE and supporting guidance regarding Year 10 provision in secondary schools has not been clear. As a result, the Governors and I have not been able to make a firm decision regarding what we will do as a school. I can, however, confirm that in line with all other secondary schools in North Devon, the earliest we will consider opening is the 8<sup>th</sup> June 2020.

I am hoping that further government advice will be provided on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2020 and again on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2020, and I hope that during the week beginning 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020 I will be able to confirm what our provision will look like.

In reaching this decision, I need to consider the risks involved and the benefits to the young people and their education. All I can say at this stage is that we are considering a variety of options regarding the type of provision that will be available at GTS.

In order to support our planning, I would ask that you all complete the short survey that can be found using the link below, indicating your views regarding sending your child back to school. It is vitally important that all parents complete this survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/JXVFMRV>

I will write to you again as soon as I am able to. Although this is an extremely complex situation, please feel assured that any decisions reached will be centered on the well-being and needs of all in the GTS community.

I have also enclosed an open letter from Dawn Stabb (Head of Education and Learning - DCC) outlining some key information regarding the re-opening of schools.

Yours faithfully



Andy Bloodworth  
Headteacher