



Newent Community School and Sixth Form Centre

Striving for Excellence

Principal • Mr Alan Johnson

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Dear Parents/Carers,

A task of mind-boggling complexity is what many are reporting in the media this morning after the announcement yesterday by the Government about the reopening of schools in September. I have included two links for you to read at your leisure the first is what is being asked of schools and the second is key information for parents and carers about the opening of early years providers, schools and colleges, safety in schools, attendance, transport, school meals and exams.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak?utm_source=a4f2c389-4567-489e-bfe9-f60d374c0313&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate

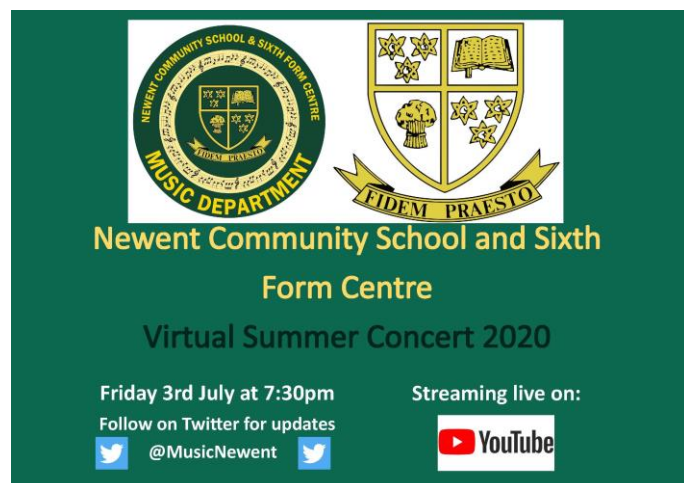
We started working on what the school would look like in September as soon as the leaks began on Monday this week. I have to say I am truly thankful that they have pulled back from narrowing the curriculum. Catching up on lost learning is something I am confident that our amazing staff team can achieve but forcing children to miss out on a broad and balanced curriculum would in my opinion have been a disaster of epic proportions.

You will also have seen a great deal in the media about Headteachers being required to fine parents for not sending their children to school in September. Please understand that while I want all children back in school in September, I also understand the anxiety that many of you will be feeling at this time. Full attendance is of real importance to me and in normal circumstances I would have no qualms about using any means necessary to encourage attendance at school. However, these are not normal times and therefore despite external pressure it is not my intention to fine parents in September. When you are trusting me with one of the most important parts of your life, your children, I cannot believe that threats of a fine are the right solution. Rather whilst understanding that it is not possible to ensure a totally risk-free environment, I want you to share my confidence that it is safe for your children to return to our school. Please remember that we have remained open every day since the start of the current crisis. The measures that we have in place to protect our students, staff and families have worked and I am confident that despite the challenge ahead they will continue to do so. Having all children attend in September will be an important move back towards normal life for our children and families.

I will write to you again shortly to explain what the school will look like for all years in September and about how to we will continue to balance and minimise any risks from coronavirus (COVID-19) whilst providing a full educational experience for children and young people.

On a happier note please see the link below for our Virtual Summer Concert that is taking place this evening at 7.30pm. A big thank you for Mrs O'Regan for organizing this event and the 15 students that have taken part. I am very much looking forward to watching it.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k0g6ZrZ_EUg



The poster features a green background. At the top left is a circular logo for the Music Department with the text 'NEWENT COMMUNITY SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM CENTRE' and 'MUSIC DEPARTMENT'. To its right is the school crest, which is a shield divided into four quadrants containing a book, a chalice, and stars, with a banner below that reads 'FIDEM PRAESTO'. Below the logos, the text reads 'Newent Community School and Sixth Form Centre' and 'Virtual Summer Concert 2020'. At the bottom left, it says 'Friday 3rd July at 7:30pm' and 'Follow on Twitter for updates @MusicNewent'. At the bottom right, it says 'Streaming live on:' with a YouTube logo.

Stagecoach Buses

Final reminder that all Stagecoach letters need to be returned to school by Monday 6th July to book a place for next academic year on the Gloucester or Forest routes. If you have not received a letter or have any queries then please email: finance@newent.gloucs.sch.uk

Regards



Alan Johnson
Principal