



# Ramsey Grammar School

## *Scoill Ghrammeydys Rhumsaa*

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Dear Parents and Students

### **Update on the possible re-opening of RGS to more students**

I hope you are all keeping well.

You may have heard the news conference this evening given by the Minister of Education, Alex Allinson, in which he confirmed plans for all schools to re-open on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June, after schools are closed for two weeks in what would have been TT fortnight. Key worker students in the primary hub schools will return to their “home” schools on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June, and our primary partner schools will be preparing to open their schools to designated year groups at an appropriate point in time after that.

Staff will return to work at RGS on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June, and we are planning for a phased, gradual return of year 10 and year 12 students at a date to be confirmed after then. The exact timing of this expansion in attendance will depend entirely on the extent to which I consider that we are as ready as we can be to take in larger number of students, whilst maintaining social distancing and adhering to strict guidelines on hygiene. I promised in my last update to share our detailed risk assessment with you, so that you can be fully aware of the new context in which we are operating, and so that you are aware of the steps that we are taking to reduce the risk of transmission of coronavirus at school. You can be sure that I will not be opening school to greater numbers of students until I am as sure as I can be that it is safe to do so. I will post a link to this risk assessment when it has been further reviewed by DESC Health and Safety advisors in advance of opening to more students after 17<sup>th</sup> June. I will confirm an exact date for re-opening to more students as soon as I am able to.

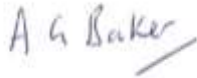
In the second half of the summer term teachers and support staff will clearly need to continue to provide online resources for all students until such time as normal service is resumed in school, which we all hope will happen in the very near future. I am delighted that so many of you have given your consent for us to use “Zoom” with your children. This together with the other online learning tools and videoconferencing platforms that our teachers have been trialling makes it possible for us to increase the interaction of the students with their teachers, even if for the moment this only happens virtually. Gaining access to these new ways of learning and working has not been easy, to be honest it has been frustrating for us as well as for you and the students not to be able to move on this as quickly as we would have liked to, due to the various data protection rules we need to comply with. Please bear with us on this, we really are doing everything we can to get these new ways of working up and running as soon as we legally can.

I must say that I am proud of our teachers, teaching assistants and support staff for creating a virtual learning curriculum in a very short amount of time, a curriculum which none of us had planned for or had remotely expected to have to do. I expect the quality and consistency of our provision to continue to improve, and also fully expect many aspects of the provision we have made during this health emergency to be retained and developed still further when this crisis is over.

After TT fortnight RGS staff will continue to support key workers who need their children to attend school. I would remind you to please fill out the online form mentioned in my last update if you fall into the key worker category, and wish your child to be considered for a place at in our “emergency hub” provision. Students attending this provision will be supported by staff in accessing the online provision developed for them by their teachers.

With things continuing to change at quite short notice I will be back in touch with parents before the TT break to update you on the very latest developments. In the meantime please remember to contact me with any queries via [RGSenquiries@sch.im](mailto:RGSenquiries@sch.im).

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "A G Baker". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Annette Baker  
Headteacher