



23rd May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I apologise for writing to you at the weekend, however I wanted to update you as soon as possible on our plans for having face to face contact for year 10. Recent advice and information has led us to reconsider our plans for 1st June.

Since I wrote to you on 19th May, we have still not received any further guidance on opening secondary schools from the government, however we have now seen some details of the science behind the government's decisions. On Friday 22nd May, the scientific report from the independent SAGE committee recommended that schools should not open until there is a sufficient track and trace system. Sir David King who heads this report said "It is clear from the evidence we have collected that 1st June is simply too early to go back. By going ahead with this dangerous decision, the government is further risking the health of our communities and the likelihood of a second spike."

In addition, teaching unions, Unison and headteacher unions have now issued advice that opening on 1st June would be an unnecessary risk. Geoff Barton, the General Secretary of the ASCL (Association of School and College Leaders) provided this statement on Friday 22nd May, "Our advice is to defer any planning until after the half-term break. Too much of all of this isn't just about education - it's about public health. And we must be extremely cautious about groups of young people moving around the community until that secondary guidance is there to advise us."

For this reason, having discussed this with other trust leaders and in line with other trust secondary schools, I have taken the decision to postpone our plans until we receive further guidance for secondary schools. This will mean year 10 students will continue to work at home, however the EHCP and Vulnerable pupil provision will continue as usual.

As with the other year groups in the school, we will not be setting any additional work for students until 8th June to give students the opportunity to catch up with the work that has already been sent. Teachers will be ready to help with questions and provide help through email and google classroom from 1st June, however they will not be adding to the workload in the first week.

As always, I thank all students and parents for their ongoing support and flexibility in this challenging time. I will write to you again once we have clear guidance from the government on how we can start to have more face to face contact with year 10.

Yours sincerely

Mr K Howard  
Headteacher



# St Dunstan's School

GLASTONBURY

**Headteacher: Mr K Howard BSc(Ed)**  
Wells Road, Glastonbury, Somerset BA6 9BY  
T: 01458 832943 | F: 01458 831220  
E: [secretary@stdunstansschool.com](mailto:secretary@stdunstansschool.com)  
[www.stdunstansschool.com](http://www.stdunstansschool.com)

---

*'Part of the Midsomer Norton Schools' Partnership'*

Company Registration Number: 07365778 | VAT Number: 115 2460 50

