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Dear Parent/Guardian

I hope you have enjoyed half term, despite being still "locked down". The weather has been glorious and I can see that many members of the Maiden Erlegh community have been making the most of the sunshine. I'm sure the gardeners amongst you will be glad of the rain, however.

Over the break, there were a number of announcements from the government and I wanted to let you know what our schools' positions are with regard to widening provision for this half term:

- Secondary provision for keyworker and vulnerable children has successfully re-located to each "home" school and we have been delighted with the numbers of students attending.
- Secondary school face-to-face programmes for Years 10 and 12 will now start from 15 June. Your school's Headteacher will contact you separately with more details of the plans relating to your child.
- Great Hollands Primary School is continuing its provision for keyworker and vulnerable children and will welcome the **targeted year groups from 8 June**. Mr Ferris will write to you separately with the details of provision from next week.
- Hamilton School has started to welcome back students this week.
- All schools are continuing with remote learning for those groups not back in school.

As I have said previously, the safety and wellbeing of pupils/students and staff is at the heart of what we do and I must thank school and Trust leaders, as well as Trustees and Local Advisory Board Members, who have been working relentlessly on risk assessments, education plans and site preparation. To support this, we have put in place an information and training programme for staff so that everyone is clear about how the new routines are organised and how to implement risk assessments. Your child's Headteacher will provide you with information about changes to routines and expectations. Please can I ask that you go through these with your child as this will help reinforce the safety messages that we are giving in schools. Please can I also ask that you respect guidance given to parents and guardians. If you need to contact school please do not hesitate, however, if possible please use email or telephone rather than coming in and if you do so, please respect the social distancing measures in place.

The DfE has updated its guidance for parents/guardians and this can be found here:

One major feature of the summer term usually is transition work: with Year 6 pupils and their parents/guardians, and with prospective Year 12 students. Clearly, this cannot take place as usual but we want to do our best to help the new members of our community settle in smoothly in September. To supplement our "virtual" transition work this half term, our secondary schools, including Hamilton School, will be using 3 September for this work. This means that **secondary provision will only be open to certain students on 3 September**. Your child's Headteacher will confirm the details nearer the time.

We are very much looking forward to seeing many more of our pupils, students and staff again before the summer holidays and it is lovely to see them returning to schools, slowly but surely. I am acutely aware, however, that there are many of our community who may not come back before the summer. Please rest assured that all the pupils and students, and staff, who are working at home are in our minds and missed. The remote learning will continue for the remainder of this term and it is important that your child continues with these activities. I realise it is not always easy and I am very grateful for your cooperation with this over the past months. As I say to colleagues, we are only human, and we can only do our best. This applies to as much to parents and guardians as it does to learners and colleagues.

I know that your children are missing their friends, many are missing school (though they might not admit it). Staff also are missing seeing your children too, and they want to be able to teach and support them in school. This is testament to my colleagues' professionalism and genuine dedication to their jobs but also the fact that your children are great company and full of positive energy.

Thank you again for your support. If you have any questions please contact your school's Headteacher or me.

Yours sincerely

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Miss M Davies Chief Executive Officer