

SCA/GFI

5th August 2020

Re: Update on preparation for September opening

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you and your family are staying safe and having a lovely summer.

I'm writing to give you all a brief update on how preparations for the new term are progressing.

The site team are working hard in making sure that the school site is ready to welcome the full cohort of students back in September. Below are some photos which show some of the progress we have made in the first two weeks of the holiday. Some of the key work completed so far is:

- Additional hand sanitising stations have been installed around school;
- The one-way system has been clearly marked out with colour coded signage and arrows;
- The theatre and adjacent meeting room have been converted into dining space to increase the amount of dining space available;
- Three classrooms have been relocated to improve the flow of students around school;
- The library and reception areas have had protective screens installed and redesigned to encourage social distancing;
- The marking of designated areas on site for year groups to use at social time has begun;
- Several orders have been placed for further equipment to ensure the safe and smooth running of the school when we return.



Further site work will continue over the next four weeks. In addition to these physical changes, the leadership team have been working on guidance for staff and students to support the return to school. We have been working with the school's trade union representatives to ensure that we have a comprehensive package of measures to keep everyone in school safe.

Steve Campbell Principal

Hugh Robinson CEO

Dudley Lane, Seaton Burn, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE13 6EJ

T +44 (0)191 236 1700

E admin@northgosforth.co.uk W www.northgosforthacademy.org.uk

I remain fully confident that our school will be a safe place for everyone in September, with sufficient measures in place to allow students to stay safe whilst having an enjoyable and rich experience in school.

As well as this preparation, we have been delighted to welcome some of our incoming Year 7 students into school this week to do some transition work with school staff and colleagues from the Newcastle United Foundation. All Year 7 students will complete a full transition programme in the new school year but it's been lovely to give them a bit of a feel for the school to support their start in September.

I'd like to again remind you that the first week back in September is a bit different this year and involves year groups coming in on specific days for their 'covid-secure induction'. This runs alongside the full Year 7 induction programme for new starters. The first week back is scheduled as below:

- **Monday 31st August** - Bank Holiday
- **Tuesday 1st September** - Teacher training day - school closed
- **Wednesday 2nd September** - Year 7 only in school
- **Thursday 3rd September** - Years 7, 9 & 11 only in school. Years 8 & 10 home learning
- **Friday 4th September** - Years 7, 8 & 10 only in school. Years 9 & 11 home learning

All students will then return to school full time on Monday 7th September.

The next Government announcement concerning schools reopening is scheduled for Saturday 15th August. I will write to you all again after this date to confirm our final plans for September.

Yours faithfully,



Mr S Campbell
Principal