



Tuesday 19th September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Last week it felt an incredible achievement to get all year groups back on site even if this is on a part-time basis for some year groups. The vast majority of students have responded incredibly well to the changes they have been faced with on return. They have shown resilience and understanding to the pressures the school is facing at the moment. A member of staff commented at the end of the first week **'Scalby School is not bricks or a building, it is the incredible people within it'**. This has stuck with me over the past few days, and it is a message we continue to give out to students.

I wanted to provide you with an update of what has happened over the past two weeks and how I foresee the next few weeks unfolding. To simplify things, I have attempted to break the work we have done and still must do into phases. Currently we have just reached the end of **Phase 1, Re-opening** and we are now starting work on **Phase 2, Rebuilding**. I wanted to outline in detail the extent of the work that we are undertaking currently. I appreciate some parents may be getting frustrated, especially with student's home learning activities. What we did learn during the pandemic, is that there is no substitute for students being sat in front of our staff in a classroom, this has not changed, and my priority is ensuring this happens as quickly as possible.

A switch to a full timetable of online live learning is not something we can do overnight especially when faced with all the other challenges which you will see below. Over the next week we are working to improve the online offer for students who are not on site. Mr Davis will provide more details later this week when we have worked through proposals with teaching staff.

I, more than anyone am angry and frustrated by having to deal with this situation. It is important though we remain positive and solution focused, working together to plot a course through the storm we are faced with. I am confident our incredible team can do that. We are in the business of providing an education for the young people in our community, our 2023 GCSE results show that we continue to do this extremely well. Please continue to trust in our incredible people to make the right decisions to resolve these problems.

Below I have attempted to summarise the key actions taken and the future plans. I am sure it will help you understand the scale of what my team are faced with currently.

Phase 1 Re-opening (This phase has now been completed)

Health & Safety

- Undertaken a risk assessment with North Yorkshire Council to ensure the school site is safe for students, staff and contractors. No staff were allowed on site until this was in place.

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Face to face learning

- Provide all students with face 2 face education, some year groups are on a limited timetables due to lack of access to rooms.
- Provide Year 11 students with a full curriculum offer on site, prioritised due to examination year.
- Provide Year 7 students with a full school day utilising rooms at Scarborough UTC. Year 7 students were chosen as their curriculum was easier to adapt to fit in the 7 rooms available at the UTC.
- Complete rewrite of the school timetable.
- Train a team of 16 teaching and pastoral staff to run and manage the Year 7 school offer at the UTC.
- Curriculum leaders and teachers to change and adapt curriculum plans to the change in delivery needs.
- Provide training for staff on Google Classrooms and MS Teams where required.
- Provide staff time to empty resources and belongings from affected classrooms.
- Provide students and staff with guidance on new school routines and movement protocols.

Online learning

- Where students are not in school, provide an open access website so students can access online work. It was not possible for all students to use Google Classroom or MS Teams as some students cannot remember password from before the summer.
- When students are in school, ensure that all students who access remote learning can login to Google Classroom and MS Teams. This involves providing every student with computer access and training in school, Year 9 completed 18/9/2023, Year 10 completed by 20/09/23, Year 8 completed by 22/9/2023.

Site work

- 20 classrooms, support rooms and offices identified as having RAAC at present. A further 10 ground floor classrooms and support rooms unable to be used as below RAAC affected rooms. These ground floor rooms will be available once mitigation work is completed on the first-floor rooms.
- Create alternative accommodation for on-site school dining using the Gym and a temporary Marquee
- Mitigation work undertaken on all corridor areas to provide access for staff, students and contractors around the site.
- Organise and begin mitigation work on rooms on the first floor of the school. This will allow access to ground floor rooms unaffected by RAAC but unable to be used currently until mitigation work has been completed. This work is expected to take 2 – 4 weeks and will allow parts of the ground floor to become available once upstairs rooms have been completed.
- Empty all affected rooms of furniture and equipment and identify storage solutions for all equipment decanted from rooms.
- Meeting with Portakabin to discuss specifications for temporary buildings to replace rooms that will be no longer useable.



- Explored the possibility of relocating some students to the old Raincliffe School site. This was deemed as not feasible due to the amount of work required to bring the building back to a functioning standard. Also, no information available on surveys undertaken on building relating to RAAC and asbestos.
- Identified other local venues that could host Drama and Music lessons.

Phase 2 Rebuilding (We are now beginning this phase 18/09/2023) It is difficult to provide timeframes on this phase as information changes daily.

Health & Safety

- Continue to monitor Health and Safety issues and update guidance to staff and students appropriately.

Face to face learning

- Start to phase year groups back onto site as further rooms become available as mitigation work is completed on the first floor.
- Monitor the curriculum offer in place at the UTC. Create Year 7 experience days based around Physical Education and the Arts
- Launch after school clubs for students, for example sports teams and Year 11 intervention.
- Create a timetable suitable for utilising the available space to get Years 8, 9 & 10 back on site in full time education.
- Focus on Year 11 curriculum delivery and examination preparation.
- Run a series of information evenings for current parents and prospective parents at the Rugby Club

Online learning

- Launch remote learning student timetables, where students can access work and feedback via Google Classrooms and MS Teams
- Develop the use of live learning via MS Teams once staff training, timetables and computer access issues have been resolved.

Site work

- Continue to work with the DFE and Portakabin to procure and install temporary classrooms.
- Procure and build a permanent canteen structure.
- Work with the DFE and North Yorkshire Council to develop a plan for a school rebuild.



Scalby School
being the best we can be

Further phases will involve the installation of temporary classrooms and the returning of Year 7 students to our Fieldstead Crescent site. Again, it is difficult to provide timescales for this work. Please be assured I will communicate information as soon as possible.

I appreciate there will be a lot of uncertainty around the current provision, but I hope you understand the complexities of the issues we are facing and the speed with which we are trying to react to get all our students back into education fulltime. We have incredible students and staff at Scalby school, please now trust us to rebuild our school.

October Staff Training Day

On Thursday 12th October 2023, there was a staff training day scheduled where school was closed to students. Due to our current situation, this has now been cancelled. School will be open as normal with students in school that day or home leaning.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Chris Robertson

Headteacher