

28th August 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you have all managed to have a good summer break and take advantage of the lovely weather we have had. Following on from my letter dated 16th July 2020, and following government guidance, we are now planning for a **full opening of the school next week Thursday (3rd September 2020)**. This means that **all students throughout England are now expected to return to school.**

The measures which I outlined in my last letter remain in place and I have repeated them below as a reminder:

In order to provide a safe learning environment for our pupils, we have put protective measures in place to reduce risks.

Entering/ Exiting

- Only one parent/carer should bring/collect their child from school.
- Parents/carers arriving in their own vehicles should remain in the vehicle until approached by a member of staff who will let the pupils know when it is safe to enter the school building.
- Parents/carers walking to school should queue up on the markings on the path, maintaining social distancing.
- On arrival, pupils wearing disposable/reusable face coverings must place them in a plastic bag to dispose of when they get home/ wear when going home. Plastic bags should be provided by the parent/carer.
- If parents need to speak to a member of staff, they should telephone the school office to arrange a telephone discussion or meeting.

Bubble Information

| Bubble 1 | Bubble 2 | Bubble 3 |
|------------------|-------------|--------------|
| Foundation Stage | Primary 3 | Secondary 3 |
| Primary 1 | Secondary 1 | Secondary 4 |
| Primary 2 | Secondary 2 | Sensory Base |

- Staff and students will remain in their bubble throughout the school day. The care and support and intervention teams therefore will be disbanded for the time being, working in designated bubbles. Intimate care, physio programmes, interventions etc. will therefore be able to continue with appropriate PPE being used where necessary.
- Where staff have to teach across bubbles, government guidelines will be adhered to in terms of social distancing.
- Rooms will be arranged so that opportunities for social distancing are maximised. Resources and areas will be cleaned regularly throughout the school day and after school.
- Resources for students to use will be separated and cleaned after use.
- Pupils should bring in their own stationary in a bag with the name on if possible.
- Classrooms have handwashing facilities, sprays and wipes and tissues.
- Students can wear face masks if it would make them feel more comfortable, but this is not compulsory.

- Windows will remain open throughout the school day to aid ventilation. Where appropriate and safe doors will also remain open. **Please therefore make sure that your child comes to school dressed appropriately, as classrooms may well be cooler than usual, depending on the weather.**
- **There will be no swimming lessons for the first half term.**
Swimming lessons will be replaced with a second PE lesson to ensure students are receiving the recommended time for physical exercise in school.

Break / Lunch Times

- During break/lunch times, pupils will use their allocated areas of the playground/play areas.
- Pupils will need to bring their own snack for break time.
- Pupils will need to bring in their own **labelled** water bottle.
- The school kitchen will be open as usual and providing hot meals.
- Pupils will eat their dinners in their class bases.

General Information

- Pupils are required to wear school uniform. They should wear clean uniform each day.
- Pupils will be required to wash their hands regularly throughout the day. We ask parents to encourage pupils to do this regularly at home so that it becomes embedded.
- Bags are allowed, but pupils should only bring in the essentials: home school books, stationary (where appropriate), PE kit on the appropriate day, feeds, water bottle etc.
- There will be no whole school assemblies until further notice, but collective worship and certificate presentations will continue in classes.
- Therapists will continue to provide support for our students, but where possible, this will be done remotely rather than by a face to face visit. Where face to face is the only practical way, therapists will book in their sessions beforehand and will wear appropriate PPE.

Keeping the whole school community safe

- Parents must inform school if pupils have any symptoms of Covid19.
- If any member of the household has symptoms, your child must not come to school for 14 days.
- If a pupil presents with symptoms whilst at school, parents must be readily contactable and able to collect their child straight away. They will be taken to a quarantine room to await collection. **All contact details held by the office must be up to date at all times.**
- **Parents are expected to take their child immediately to be tested and report the results to school as soon as they are received.**

If for any reason your child is unable to return to school on Thursday you must telephone the school as soon as possible to explain the reasons.

We look forward to physically seeing you all again next week and to working with you.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs H Austin

