

4th November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

As you will be aware, tomorrow sees the start of significant national restrictions as we continue to respond as a country to the Covid-19 pandemic. Schools will remain open during this period of time and there will be no significant changes to the operations that we have put in place since our reopenings in both June and September.

I would, however, like to take this opportunity to reiterate that it remains important that you support us in ensuring that these measures are successful. In particular, I would like to emphasise that you should only arrive at your designated pick up and drop off times - this helps us to minimise the number of people on site at any one time and thereby makes it easier for everyone to ensure greater social distancing. Please also remember that if you need to speak to a member of staff, you should do this by telephone in the first instance. The academy is currently only accepting essential visitors where appointments are made in advance.

At the end of the half term, the government released an update to the school opening guidance. As a result of this we have updated the academy risk assessment.

A key change to the government requirements is that we **must** ensure that all rooms are well ventilated by opening windows and doors where possible. We have implemented this throughout the academy. We are ensuring that windows are open enough to allow sufficient ventilation and then they are opened fully along with the doors during breaktime to create a throughput of air. The school will of course continue to have the school heating system turned on throughout the school day.

Some children may feel the cold more than others. If parents want to, children may wish to wear a vest or a thermal undergarment. This is not a requirement, just a suggestion. We will also allow children to wear fleeces / coats over their jumpers if they experience being cold.

Many parents have asked about making it compulsory to wear masks when dropping off and picking up children. We are not in a position to enforce this, it is currently a choice by individuals if they wish to wear a mask outdoors. We do fully support those adults who wish to wear a mask and encourage more to do this.

Once again, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support during these difficult and unprecedented times.

Yours faithfully,

Rachael Skirrow

Principal.

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