



22 October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

As we come towards the end of the first half term of this academic year, I wanted to take the opportunity to thank you for your support and commend your children for their great attitude and efforts towards displaying our Academy STARS values (safe, teachable, aspirational resilience and sociable), particularly during these challenging and unique circumstances.

On each occasion that we have been informed of a positive COVID-19 case within the Academy, we have followed the latest government guidelines and worked closely with the local public health authority to ensure the appropriate steps were taken as quickly as possible. This has included asking some of our students and staff to self-isolate, as a precautionary measure, ensuring the Academy continues to be a safe teaching and learning environment for as many students and staff as possible.

As a community, it is important we continue to do our utmost to reduce the further spread of COVID-19. With this in mind, I would like to take this opportunity to update you with some changes to the health and safety measures of the Academy from Monday, 2 November 2020.

**We are keeping most aspects of the Academy operation the same. This includes:**

- Bubbles remain in place
- Staggered starts and ends of the day
- Separate year group entrances to the Academy building
- Different breaks and lunchtimes
- Separate yard space for year groups
- Enhanced cleaning routines, including hand sanitiser stations at entrances and all classrooms.

**Aspects that we are changing from the 2 November:**

- Student bubbles will pass in some corridors during the five-minute changeover, whilst wearing masks
- Classrooms used for multiple use will be sanitised before students enter
- All students and staff will be required to wear a face covering **in communal areas** (inside the building). In effect, this will be when changing lessons or going to collect food during lunch.
- Where a student has a medical exemption, evidence will be required. Please speak to the year team.
- Students will be taught in subject specific classrooms and will need to walk on the left when moving between lessons.

**Why we are operating this way from 02 November:**

- We believe that the measures in place around the Academy are providing the greatest level of protection possible
- We believe that the wearing of face coverings will enhance the protection for the community against COVID-19
- We believe that students being taught in subject specific classrooms will benefit from a better educational experience and offer greater protection for their academic progress during this challenging time

**Home learning:**

Just to remind you when students are self-isolating due to COVID-19, staff will provide live online lessons where possible via Teams. Where this is not possible, teachers will set appropriate work for students to complete, also by Teams.

I would also like to say how proud we are of the children and the resilience they've shown during this changing climate and thank you for your continued cooperation. Please have a have a restful week and return to us safe and sound on the 2 November.

Yours faithfully



**Mr Carlile  
Principal**