

Monday 13th July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

The government has now published its requirements for a full return to school in September. We are approaching this next stage of reopening with a 'can do' attitude. There will be significant changes in how the academy works on a day-to-day basis but we are confident we have the space, resources and the will to open safely and securely for staff and students. Providing a broad and balanced curriculum in a safe and secure environment is at the heart of what we propose to do on all three sites, with a 'bubble and zoning system'.

In order to facilitate this, we have many logistical aspects we need to ensure:

- Reviewing every teaching space to ensure they are compliant with the expected standards
- Increasing our sanitization facilities
- Reducing the number of surfaces that could become contaminated
- Implementing a one way system and year group zones, including social spaces
- Securing increased cleaning capacity with our contractors
- Reviewing the timings of our timetabled day to allow small staggered start and finish times
- Updating our risk assessments accordingly
- Liaising with our catering and transport providers.

If you are inquisitive then the full government document is here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>

We have some plans already secured including:

- We have agreed that in September, Outwoods students will have sole pedestrian use of the entrance on Harehedge Lane for their pupils and parents. In return, we will have sole use of all three entrances onto Dove field from Rolleston Road, Tutbury Road and Bank Walk. All Year 7 and 8 students will therefore have to come in via the field and back of school
- We can teach our normal broad and balanced curriculum following the normal timetable, with students remaining in their zones and staff rotating around to them
- We will hold assemblies remotely in individual classrooms not en mass in the hall
- Attendance procedures will continue as they were prior to lockdown. It is essential that if your child cannot attend that we are notified as soon as possible. We do have a strong attendance team, including our new Education Welfare Officer, Mrs Cooling, who will be on hand to support you, as attendance to school is now mandatory (see DfE guidance)
- Behaviour standards will be maintained to our usual high expectations
- Educational visits will not be going ahead in the foreseeable future.

In order to facilitate the successful delivery of the curriculum, we ask that families support us by ensuring that all students attend school with their own equipment; pens (including a black biro and fineliner),

pencils, pencil sharpener, ruler, eraser, crayons, glue stick as we want to prevent sharing of resources. We will of course provide for students who this will prove difficult for.

Friday 4th September will be our Student Induction Day whereby all children from Years 7-12 will be expected to attend to receive their timetables for the first half-term. This will allow us to hit the ground running on Monday 7th September for all students, with everyone knowing the routines and how the 'new normal' will operate until the guidance is reviewed further.

Students should be in their full uniform, with their equipment and a packed lunch. We will provide for our FSM families. We will not be able to offer breakfast/snack services on that day, so please ensure your child has adequate food and drink for the full day. They will not need their PE kit on their first day. You will receive a personalised letter with your child's full provision prior to commencement of the new academic year.

All communication will be uploaded to our website and links sent via Twitter and text. Can I thank you for your support over the last few months, we look forward to welcoming all the students back to school in September. Have a safe and enjoyable summer.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in green ink, appearing to read 'K Hardy', written in a cursive style.

Mrs K D Hardy
Principal