

COVID 19 Q and A sheet for Families

In line with Government guidance and in discussion with the Trust, Local Authority and Governors we have:

- Agreed a set of principles which we have used to guide our decision making.
- Researched best practice guidance from world leading experts about the curriculum

General Health and Safety

Q: What measures have the school taken to reduce the risk of contamination?

We have:

- Completed additional risk assessments linked to COVID 19 for all aspects of school life.
- Changed our systems and procedures to reduce the risk of cross contamination.
- Put up signage and posters to support safe practice.
- Employed extra cleaners and adopted additional cleaning regimes throughout the day.

Q What changes have you made to ensure that learners stay 2 metres away from each other?

- Through our risk assessment process we have calculated that the maximum number of learners we can accommodate in one school day is 34.
- Through the risk assessment process the maximum number of learners consists of four learners and 2/3 staff dependent on the size and layout of the room being used.

We have also:

- Changed the layout of the rooms and removed furniture so that desks are 2 metres apart.
- Displayed posters to remind learners and staff about the need to stay 2 metres away from each other.
- Created a one way system downstairs and an “Up” and “Down” staircase.
- Staggered break and lunchtimes.
- Allocated designated areas for classes to have their break time which we are calling “break spaces”

We will use our script “Personal Space” to remind learners about social distancing.

Q: Can you explain some examples of the changes you have made to your cleaning regimes to reduce cross contamination?

- The soft play, sensory room, climbing room and library are no longer in use due to difficulties maintaining rigorous cleaning procedures.
- Cleaners, for example, clean desks, door handles during the day.
- In addition staff in class teams will clean desks, keyboards, outdoor play equipment throughout the day.
- Where specialist rooms are used we will ensure that a deep clean happens before any another class uses the room.
- Staff and learners will wash their hands at specific times which will further reduce the risk of cross contamination.

Q: What other measures have you put in place to reduce the risk of contamination?

- Learners will be given their own pencil case and pens. These have been ordered but may not arrive by 1st June. Therefore if your child is coming into school on Monday please can they bring in their own pencil case. Please do not worry if your child does not have a pencil

case as we will ensure that pens and pencils are cleaned with anti-bacteria wipes before giving them to the learners.

Q: How has the school reduced the number of people coming into contact with each other?

- In line with Government Guidance we have created “Family Bubbles” which consists of the same staff members and learners.
- We have designated “Family Bubble” toilets for learners to use.
- For the vast majority of the day learners will stay in their class. This includes eating their breakfast and lunch.
- We have created a one way system downstairs and an “Up” and “Down” staircase
- On arrival to school learners will need to wait in their taxi **until called out by a member of staff**
- Lower School learners will gain access into their classroom via the outdoor classroom door.
- Learners in the upper school will go through the learner entrance straight up the “Up” staircase.
- We will continue to hold meetings virtually

Q: What other measures have been put in place to reduce contact?

- Learners are no longer able to use the canteen. To reduce the transportation of dirty cutlery and crockery breakfast will consist of breakfast bars and fruit. Lunch will consist of a hot or cold deli bag.

Q: Can staff and learners wear face masks?

- Staff and learners are able to wear face masks. However, the Government are not recommending this. Staff will wear full protective clothing if a child is ill or requires first aid.

Q: What will happen if a child is ill in school?

- A learner will be given medical attention. If they are displaying a high temperature and cough we will ring the parent/carer to collect them. The learner will then wait in the meeting room until they are collected. Once the child has left the room will be cleaned.

Q: What measures have been put in place to help social distancing and cross contamination in the taxi?

- The Local Authorities have limited the number of learners travelling in a taxi to one (unless the vehicle is large and can accommodate two learners.)
- Many taxi drivers and escorts are wearing masks. However, the Specialist Transport team cannot enforce this or monitor the number of times Taxis are being cleaned.
- Learners can wear masks in the taxi if they wish. Government advice recommends sitting near an open window facing outwards.

Q: Will learners be expected to wear their school uniform?

- Learners will be expected to wear their school uniform (Monday – Thursday) and their own clothes on a Friday

Q: What can I do to help the school keep everyone safe?

- If your child is feeling unwell and showing any symptoms please do not send them to school.
- Ensure that your child wears clean washed clothes each day. This may mean that your child may not be able to wear their blazer to school every day.

- Talk to your child about the changes the school has made and why they need to follow the new procedures to keep themselves and everyone safe.
- Keep soft toys at home.
- If you are dropping your child off at school please let them wait in the car with you
- If you and your child walk to school please wait by the learner entrance gate adhering to the 2 m guidelines.

Clubs

Q: Are we still doing the after school club on a Thursday?

- No – this will not be going ahead and likely not starting again until at least the new academic year.

Q: Will the Holiday Club run in the Summer Holidays?

- To support learners' transition back to school we will run some form of holiday club as long as it is safe to do so.
- We will also hold 1-1 family drop in sessions during the last week of the Summer Holidays.
- Our Family Footings Team will continue to work with families

Curriculum

Q: What will the first day back look like in June?

- Our overriding aim is for the learners to settle back into school. As there have been a lot of changes, for example, learners will be in new classes and have to learn new routines
- Individual classes will practice a fire drill (there will be no alarms and only one class at a time)
- On the first day back we will ask each "Family Bubble" to decide a new class name.

Q: Will my child be with their friends?

- Where possible we have tried to keep learners with someone from their class. Perhaps the hardest thing for learners to adjust to will be the fact that they cannot mix with other staff or learners in other "Family Bubbles". However, many learners know each other through Thursday Club, breakfast club and enrichment activities.

Q: What will the curriculum look like for learners who are in school?

- We will adopt the "Recovery Curriculum" as recommended by world leading experts (For more information about this go to <https://www.evidenceforlearning.net/recoverycurriculum/>) The Recovery Curriculum will be facilitated through our: Morning PowerPoint, English, Maths, PSHCE, Community and Enterprise lessons (e.g. art, cooking, gardening, music etc.) and Project Work linked to the Olympics (e.g. art, history, sport, geography etc. linked to learners interests) and Enrichment.
- We have invested in a system called Iris Connect that will allow staff to teach/communicate with different "Family Bubbles". This will mean, for example, that Amy Wilkins (SALT) can remotely deliver a lesson to support acquisition of language. Learners will also be able to interact with other staff and learners through this system

Q: What will the curriculum look like for learners who are at home?

- Families and learners will continue to access work via our home learning section on the website (general and class specific) and or through packs of works sent by post.
- Learners can continue to access the daily Morning PowerPoint, Manga High, Bug Club, Lexia and Accelerated Reader and the PowerPoints sent home

- Form tutors and Family Footings will continue to keep in contact with families whose child is at home via e-mail and phone on at least a weekly basis.
- We will make home visits each week for learners or organise Teams or Zoom meetings

Behaviour and Rewards

Q: Will Team Teach still be used?

- Team Teach is always a last resort. If all de-escalation techniques have been used and other options investigated e.g. other learners leaving the room, staff may as a last resort use physical interventions to keep a learner/ learners safe.

Q: What about the reward system?

- As learners are in school for different days and different number of days we have adapted our enrichment and reward system. All learners will take part in an end of the day enrichment activity and as part of their lesson review they discuss Quest Points.
- We will continue to use "Making it right" sessions which gives a learner the opportunity to discuss their day with a member of staff.
- We will continue to use EMPATHY Points and classes will agree how they will spend their Empathy Points at the end of the term.

Q: How will you support my child to come back into school if they are too anxious to attend?

- We will work with you to agree a suitable transition plan back into school.

If you have any further questions please feel free to contact members of the Senior Leadership Team.