

Covid-19 Parent/Carer and Pupil Guidance

We cannot wait to welcome all our young people back to our academies in September and we intend to do this in the safest possible way. This guidance is not designed to create further worries/anxieties but it is essential the school and the home work together and remain positive but realistic to the situations we all face together.

It must be noted this additional guidance and a full version of the academy's risk assessment can be found on our website.

'Bubbles'

As our academies are small in terms of pupil numbers, each academy will form a bubble. However, in line with Government guidance we will aim to reduce contact between all pupils and staff be operating key stage (primary, key stage 3 and key stage 4) 'Contact Clusters'. This means there will be clear rules with regards to movement between these groups; however, there may be occasions where pupils do come in contact with other clusters in order to meet their needs or/and for safety reasons and/or due to operational reasons.

Transport/Drop off and Pick up

If your child is entitled to local authority transport, they could be expected to travel with other young people from different 'Contact Clusters', this is one of the operational reasons highlighted above. This does not affect the whole academy 'bubble', nor does it affect how we plan to operate our clusters but it is something our parent/carers must be aware of.

If you drop off/pick up your child from school, parent/carers will be expected to follow social distancing guidance. Please drop your child off in the car park once a member of staff is in position to escort your child safely into the academy. This will be the same when picking up your child at the end of the day.

Handwashing

Pupils must wash their hands at home before leaving for school

Pupils must wash their hands on entering the academy building (some pupils will be expected to first hand-sanitise before washing their hands in their classrooms, this due to location of the nearest sink)

Pupils must wash their hands thoroughly after using the toilet

Pupils must wash their hands before and after eating and drinking

Pupils will be expected to wash their hands before and after moving around the academy

Pupils will be reminded to wash their hands more frequently throughout the day. Staff will also ensure handwashing follows the PHE/NHS guidance

'Catch it, bin it, kill it'

Pupils must sneeze into a tissue or sleeve NEVER into hands. Wash hands immediately after. Used tissues to be put in a bin immediately

Each classroom will have a supply of tissues and your child will be reminded of this process.

Masks & Gloves

As guidance currently stands, pupils are not expected to wear mask or gloves during the school day. However, transport arrangements may require this. When your child arrives at school they will have to first hand-sanitise their hands before removing their mask. If it is a disposal mask, they will have to place this in a bin (please ensure they have a new mask for the return journey). If it is a re-usable mask, they will place it in a paper bag (provided by the academy), this will be stored by the academy and returned at the end of the day.

Gloves – even if your child prefers to wear latex gloves, they will still have to follow all of the handwashing expectations/procedures listed above.

Behaviour Policy

Please familiarise with our Behaviour Policy (on the academy website). Our values and ethos remain the same, as we will strive to try and understand the root cause of any behaviour. However, we must ensure safety of pupils and staff remains priority, especially during these uncertain times. Every situation will be risk assessed and the safest course of action followed. This could include considering the type of provision offered but the academy SLT will endeavour to work in partnership with parent/carers in the best interested of all parties.

Restrictive Positive Intervention

The academy has a duty of care to ensure all pupils and staff are safe, this can sometimes mean we have to hold a child for their own safety and/or the safety of others. From September, despite of the current situation, restrictive positive intervention may be used following a dynamic risk assessment and for the safety of everyone.

If your child develops symptoms

If you child develops symptoms whilst at home, your child **MUST NOT** attend school. Please notify via our normal attendance procedures. You must also engage in the Test and Trace process and you will be reminded of this when notifying the academy of your child's first day of absence. Due to the process it is vital you keep the academy up to date with regards to test results etc before your child returns to school.

If your child develops symptoms whilst at school, they will be isolated from their peers in our allocated/well ventilated room. You will be notified ASAP (please ensure we have the most up to date contact numbers), if you do not answer, the academy staff will call the others number on our system. Parent/carers will be expected to collect or make alternative arrangements to collect their child from school. Please note the LA transport will not provide transport for those pupils displaying symptoms. Once safely at home you must also engage in Test and Trace process.

Education if your child is forced to isolate

If you child has to isolate the academy will put in a place virtual/home offer of education. This will be bespoke based on the needs of the young person and facilities at home. The learning provided will be linked with the learning happening within the classroom, in order to support transition after the period of isolation has finished. The class teacher/TA will aim to have regular contact with your child via virtual chats or phone. The academy will also keep in regular touch with parent/carers to offer support.

Of course, if you child is too unwell to participant in the learning, we appreciate learning will not be the priority.

Staffing and provision

The academy will do everything possible to ensure we can meet the needs of all our young people and provide a continuous education provision. However, if staff or key staff absence is affected by COVID-19 and we are unable to operate the physically school safely. We may be forced to close the academy or parts of the academy for X days, with education being delivered virtually. We hope this does not happen but we do all have to be prepared, just in case we are have to action this very quickly.