

9 July 2020

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Dear Parents and Carers

Planning for September 2020

We have now been able to examine the government guidance for the return to school for all pupils in September. As a trust, we are currently developing our plans inline with the new guidance and have outlined the main principles further down this letter. While all of our schools will be implementing the guidance, there will be differences to the arrangements within each school due to the nature of the individual buildings and sites. Headteachers will contact parents and carers next week with more information on the specific arrangements for September at each school.

The government's guidance for schools is grouped into two key areas: 'prevention' and 'response to any infection'.

Prevention includes:

- Minimising contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those with coronavirus (Covid-19) symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school.
- Ensuring pupils and staff clean their hands thoroughly and frequently throughout the day.
- Practicing good respiratory hygiene, promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach.
- Introducing enhanced cleaning, in particular regular cleaning of frequently touched surfaces, such as table tops, door handles and railings.
- Minimising contact between individuals and maintaining social distancing wherever possible.

Response to any infection includes:

- Engaging with the NHS Test and Trace process.
- Managing any confirmed cases of coronavirus (Covid-19) within the school community.
- Containing any outbreak by following local health protection team advice.

Many of the prevention strategies have already been in place in our schools since they opened more widely on 2 June. In the event of a confirmed case of coronavirus (Covid-19) in one of our schools, we will implement the robust measures outlined in our risk assessments and follow the advice and guidance from Public Health England and the local health protection team.

Our primary focus from September will be reintroducing children to the school environment and routines. The children who have already returned to school, on a part-time basis, settled in very quickly and we are confident this will be the same for pupils returning in September. We will provide pastoral support to any pupils that may have difficulty settling back into school life and want to work with parents to address any issues or concerns.

Our Partner Schools

The government has provided information specifically for parents and carers about the return to school in September which you may find useful:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-in-the-autumn-term>

Thank you for continued patience and support. Please rest assured that we are continuing to work hard to support our schools as they look forward to welcoming back all pupils in September.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Daly'.

Andrew Daly
Executive Headteacher