

20 November 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

As promised, I am writing to you with further details about some of the adjustments we will be making from Monday 23 November, as well as some additional information following our third week of national “lockdown” and further clarification on the government guidance.

The expected change in the weather has materialised and I am delighted to report that most students are starting to bring in their coats and NOT hoodies. Thank you for your support with this. Furthermore, as indicated in previous correspondence, I am now able to inform you that we have been able to review lunch arrangements and have allocated an indoor space for students who prefer to sit while eating lunch. There will be one classroom allocated per year group which will be staffed mainly by senior staff. These areas are only for those students who wish to eat in a dry space. As we have been doing since the start of term, on days where it is raining at break and lunch time, the whole year group has an indoor area assigned to them in order to keep dry.

From the beginning of the pandemic we have taken a cautious and measured approach to implementing all measures associated with reducing risk of transmission of Covid-19. We are constantly attempting to strike a balance between implementing approaches to reduce risk and the impact some measures may have on the quality of education for your children. The government has made it clear that schools should remain open to all students and, despite the introduction of increased measures nationally, there is no intention, currently, for schools to close.

The guidance on extra-curricular activities in schools has been updated and indications are that our ACE clubs can re-start. However, in line with the statement above and our measured approach, we will look to re-introduce our after-school activities once the national lockdown restrictions have been lifted. We will communicate this to you as soon as we are clear what restrictions may come into effect after 2nd December.

A huge thank you to staff and students for their support of our Children In Need ‘Be Yourself’ mufti day. This was very successful and we raised over £800, to date, for this very worthy charity. Thank you to you and your family for taking part.

This week we had a fire drill practice. Students were informed that this would be happening and had been made aware of the new line up areas. Students exited the building really well, which in turn allowed for us to account for their presence very quickly. We still need to improve on the chatter when students are getting to their line up areas, however, the majority of our students were excellent and listened to all instructions. We will have another practice before the end of term, but this time students will not be informed of the date.

Thank you for all your ongoing support and general feedback. It was lovely to meet with our Parent Voice Team (PVT) on Wednesday and to hear such support for what we have done to make your

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children feel safe in school. They also gave us some great ideas for future fundraising ideas. Thank you very much to those who attended.

Can I remind our whole community that adherence to the national guidance, associated with the most recent measures, is a legal expectation. Whilst students may leave the site in small groups they should quickly disperse and adhere to the regulations which restrict meeting any more than one person outside of your household for exercise. In addition to this, once leaving the site, students should be making their way home immediately and should then remain at home except for the specific purposes as stated in the government guidance. This means we would not expect any students to visit local parks or to gather outside of local shops.

A reminder that next week we have two INSET days on Friday 27 November and Monday 30 November. We hope that you and your children will enjoy the long weekend and take some time out to relax.

Yours sincerely

Mr Avoth

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