



10 July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **Plans to welcome all students back in September 2020**

As we come towards the end of the academic year I, once again, wanted to thank all parents/carers, students and staff for how the school community has worked together over the past few months. It has clearly been one of the biggest challenges that any of us have faced as teachers and I am very proud of how we have all responded to the situation. I am particularly pleased that we have managed to provide a strong online curriculum for students and I would like to thank parents/carers for all the encouragement they have given them during the lockdown to continue with their learning.

The good news is that The Bourne Academy will be returning in full in September. However, owing to Year 7 missing their Transition Day we have decided to allow them into the Academy on their own for a full day. Therefore, Year 7 will start back on Monday 7 September. Year 12 and Year 7 students will attend on Tuesday 8 September and for all other year groups from Wednesday 9 September. This is vital for children's' education and wellbeing and is something that we know will be welcomed across our school community.

Following previous communications and the publication of the Department for Education's (DfE) guidance for reopening schools, we are now finalising our risk assessment so that we can reopen for everyone in line with the government's and scientists' advice. Key to this will be ensuring that everyone in the Academy follows excellent hygiene practices and that we are careful about the number of different people that students come into contact with at school.

This will mean a number of important changes to how the Academy runs next term. In particular:

- When students are in the Academy, they will remain within their year group bubble, including at break and lunch. We will be avoiding any non-essential mixing of year groups
- Arrivals and end of school will be staggered to minimise the interaction between year groups, and we will be utilising different entry and exit points for each year group
- Year groups will be separated within the Academy wherever possible (Zones) so that students have access to a minimal number of classrooms and use of communal areas is strictly controlled, whilst still being able to make use of specialist teaching spaces where appropriate
- Each student MUST wear a badge indicating which year group they are in to ensure year group bubbles are not compromised and staff are able to direct students to their allocated Zone. These will be given to every student on their first day back
- All areas of the Academy will receive more frequent cleaning and there will be hand sanitiser available throughout the Academy. We will continue to encourage students to wash their hands regularly and promote the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach for any sneezes or coughs
- Sport and Physical Education will predominantly take place outdoors or in large ventilated areas and contact sports will not be played

**Principal: Mr Mark Avoth**

**The Bourne Academy, Hadow Road, Bournemouth, BH10 5HS | Tel. 01202 528554 | [admin@thebourneacademy.com](mailto:admin@thebourneacademy.com)**

**[www.thebourneacademy.com](http://www.thebourneacademy.com) |  @BourneAcademy**

- Students should bring their own items of equipment to school (e.g. pens, pencils, etc) as sharing of items will not be allowed
- ACE clubs and Additional Learning will not operate for the first two weeks. However, we will ensure we keep this under constant review and if ACE clubs or additional learning sessions can be offered, they will be in Year Group Bubbles
- During the summer holidays, parents/carers will be informed of our arrangements for our breakfast and lunch service.

By making these changes, we will be able to follow the scientific guidance to ensure students are safe within the school. Students will be able to travel to and from school as normal but we would request that, wherever possible, they travel with students in their year group bubble and practice social distancing. If they are travelling on public transport, they will be required to wear a mask. However, this is not recommended by the Government and we would not expect students to wear them in the Academy. If parents/carers wish to drive their children to school, then please avoid Hadow Road as it is essential that we are able to coordinate staggered start and finish times with Kingsleigh Primary School.

We know that all students will require some degree of catch up after the disruption of the past few months. It is, therefore, essential that every student attends every day from the beginning of term so that we can quickly return to normal curriculum content. Attendance will be required at school and will be monitored as it has been in the past. Unauthorised absence will be treated as such and followed up accordingly.

Over the summer we will be finalising the timetable for each year group (communication will be sent) and it is our expectation that a full curriculum will be offered to all students in all years with some adaptations where necessary.

We know that students thrive best when they have routine, consistency and stability around them. We will, therefore, be doing everything we can to ensure that, wherever possible, academy life is as close to normality as possible. Thus, all the Academy's existing policies and expectations on issues such as behaviour, uniform and punctuality will be in place as normal with updates as required to reflect adherence to safety and hygiene measures.

The government's scientists have also set out what will happen if any student or member of staff displays symptoms of COVID-19. Firstly, it is essential that everyone – students, parents/carers and staff – continues to follow the NHS guidance and that they do not come into school if they are experiencing any symptoms. Thus, we would ask every parent to keep any child displaying symptoms of COVID-19 at home and immediately inform the school. Likewise, if any member of your household tests positive for COVID-19, please keep your child at home and inform us as soon as possible.

If a student becomes unwell at school with a high fever, new continuous cough or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), they will be sent home. We will arrange for them to be looked after safely, separately from others, until they can be collected. They will be expected to self-isolate for at least 7 days and arrange to have a COVID-19 test.

Should we experience a confirmed case of COVID-19 within our academy community, we will work closely with our local health protection team to ensure the situation is managed quickly and effectively. Using NHS Test and Trace data, they will advise us on what next steps – if any – we will need to take as a school. We will be putting in place stringent control measures as per the DfE's

**Principal: Mr Mark Avoth**

**The Bourne Academy, Hadow Road, Bournemouth, BH10 5HS Tel. 01202 528554**

[www.thebourneacademy.com](http://www.thebourneacademy.com) [admin@thebourneacademy.com](mailto:admin@thebourneacademy.com)

The Bourne Academy is a charitable company registered in England under Company no. 07148158

Registered office: Hadow Road, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH10 5HS

guidance to minimise the need for larger groups of children to self-isolate should there be a positive case within school.

In the event of any large number of students having to self-isolate or in the event of a local lockdown that means we are required to close the Academy, we will immediately revert to the online learning that has been working well this term. We very much hope that we do not need to return to any form of lockdown but, if we do, we are confident that we will be able to continue with all students' learning from home. Once again, the support of parents/carers in ensuring children access these resources will be vital.

Finally, we know that some students will feel apprehensive about returning to school after such a long time away. This is completely understandable and is something that we expect will be more widespread than one might think. We will, therefore, be taking particular steps to ensure that our pastoral support for each student allows for this and provides time and space for any worries or concerns to be addressed so that each student is able to enjoy being back at The Bourne Academy.

Thank you for your patience and understanding over the past few months. Everyone at the Academy is looking forward to welcoming our students back. We know that there is a great deal to do and that the year ahead may still be subject to some interruptions. However, we are entirely focused on making sure that in every lesson, every day, every student continues to learn and thrive in a supportive, safe environment.

Kind regards

**Mr Avoth**

**Principal**

**Principal: Mr Mark Avoth**

**The Bourne Academy, Hadow Road, Bournemouth, BH10 5HS Tel. 01202 528554**

[www.thebourneacademy.com](http://www.thebourneacademy.com) [admin@thebourneacademy.com](mailto:admin@thebourneacademy.com)

The Bourne Academy is a charitable company registered in England under Company no. 07148158

Registered office: Hadow Road, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH10 5HS