

4th January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Firstly, I would like to thank you for your patience and continued support. As you are aware the government has announced tougher restrictions with a new Tier 4: 'Stay at Home' alert level. In response to the changes enforced by the government and advice from the unions, we have updated our risk assessment to ensure staff and students are protected in the best way possible (this can be found on Hollinwood Academy website).

I expect you will have seen the guidance relating to schools and colleges preparing for a phased return to face-to-face provision in January in order to support the NHS tackle the new strain of coronavirus. Based on the outcome of today's risk assessment I am pleased to inform you that Hollinwood Academy will reopen for the majority of students tomorrow. Unless you have been contacted and informed otherwise, your child has a place in school.

In order to ensure the school site remains safe for all, I ask that you follow the following guidelines:

Parent/carer drop off/pick:

- Strict timings are in place in order to reduce congestion and adhere to social distancing. Please drop off at **9am and not before**. Please collect at **3pm and not before**.
- Please wear a face mask when dropping off and picking up your child
- Markings are in place to assist with social distancing. Please ensure you follow these markings when dropping off and picking up. Please do not wait in clusters.

I advise all parents/carers of children and young people who arrive and depart via LA transport to contact transport to confirm their position.

Teaching and learning:

Those children and young people returning to school tomorrow will remain within their allocated bubble. Students will not move from class to class and teaching will continue remotely using our online learning platforms. Primary and static classes will be taught as they were prior to the Christmas break.

The remote learning offer will be extended to children and young people of parents/carers who have opted to keep their child at home for the next two weeks. For those who access the online learning package, attendance will be authorised, for those who choose not to engage attendance will be unauthorised. Please collect your child's iPad from reception from as early as tomorrow morning.

Please continue to communicate with the school regularly if your child is learning from home or self-isolating.

Dinners:

Hot dinners will be available from tomorrow. The menu is limited due to restricted space and time. Students will continue to eat lunch in their classrooms within their bubbles.

Before and after school club:

We are not yet in a position to resume before and after school club. This service is constantly under review and we hope to share more information with regards to reopening this service within the next couple of weeks.

Coronavirus information sharing:

It is **essential** that you are aware of the symptoms of Covid-19 and that only well children attend school. In line with public health advice, you must inform school if your child has symptoms, your child must not come into school if they **or someone in their household** has coronavirus symptoms, are waiting for a test or have tested positive.

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- **high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

We are still reviewing the introduction of lateral testing in our schools (secondary and Post-16 only) and more information will follow in due course.

As always, our main priority is keeping everyone safe. We will continue to review and update our risk assessment in line with guidance from the government, unions and public health.

Yours sincerely,



Laura Millard
Head of School