

10 June 2020

Dear Parents / Guardians

I thought it was important to provide you with an update about our Trust and school openings. Our Trust Primary Schools are all now operating with small classes of Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 pupils. All schools in our Trust remain open where needed for critical Key Workers. We are pleased to confirm that, from the week commencing 15 June 2020, Church Stretton School and Oldbury Wells School will both open additionally for Year 10 (and Year 12 in the case of OWS), with no more than 25% of these cohorts allowed on premises at any one time. This is on the understanding that the Prime Minister gives the 'green light' later this week for this additional contact.

INFORMATION FOR YEAR 10 AND 12 PARENTS:

The two secondary schools have worked exceptionally hard to be ready to re-open to Year 10/12 pupils safely and securely. Both schools are planning two phases to their work with Year 10/12.

1. 1:1 induction meetings on week beginning 15 June.
2. Small group teaching on rotas of pupils from 22 June.

Both schools have looked at all aspects of health and safety and have made many changes to how they work and how they use space. All of these changes are in line with the extensive guidance they have received from the Government, and Shropshire health and safety professionals. Our schools' approaches have been fully checked and authorised by our Trust. We hope that this reassures you.

We understand that many parents with pupils in Year 10 (and 12) may be keen to get their youngsters back into school because they face important exam years ahead. We understand that a minority amongst you will be in self isolation because of illness in your household/quarantine, or indeed because your family is shielding. We are seeing the attendance of pupils in those year groups as voluntary on the allocated days. However, we are very mindful that we face further uncertain times next term and I know both schools are anxious to see as many pupils as possible to support the learning of these exam year groups.

There are a few things that we need that parents of Year 10/12 pupils need to be aware of:

- We have divided bigger classes into smaller ones and we have arranged things to limit pupil and adult contact across our schools. This includes the management of social time.
- We will be working hard to socially distance pupils within classes.
- We have organised a full range of hygiene and cleaning systems.
- We will be operating a rota of pupils. Please see the appendix for the school specific information about this. This is because of the 25% rule we are unable to offer full time to any pupils other than those who are in the Key Worker or Vulnerable group.
- We will not be able to allow adults/visitors into our buildings unless for specified reasons. For this reason, please telephone or email the office rather than drop in.
- There are other school specific arrangements that we need you to be aware of which can be found on the school specific document..
- There are specific things we need your child to bring/not bring to school which can be found on the school specific document included.

We would appreciate you talking to your son/daughter, in advance of their return to school about the following:

- They will be in a new little group of pupils when they are at school and maybe in a particular place for much of the day. They should not expect to see friends much or be able to freely socialise, before, during or after school.

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- When they are at school, they will be doing more activities at their desk than they are used to, and the teacher will ask them not to get close to each other. Practical lessons will be a minimum.
- The way we are managing arrivals. Please see school specific information about this on the school specific letter.
- Following advice from Public Health, PPE is to be worn on buses only. If your child is arriving on the bus they will be given a specific seat and they must wear a face covering / mask. If they have a disposable mask then they will need two – one for each way and these will be thrown away after each single use. Cloth /hand-made masks are also, of course, acceptable and can be washed overnight.
- Most importantly, it is vitally important that no child or adult attends school if they are ill. I am sure you are all aware of the 14-day quarantine for families with CV illness and so on.

INFORMATION FOR OTHER YEAR GROUPS:

At the present time we will be working hard as schools to educate pupils in these new ways. We are aiming to continue to ensure that the quality of Distance Learning for those at home continues. However, this will inevitably change a little during the next few weeks as teachers will now have to divide their time between educating pupils in school and also at home. Thank you for your understanding and patience. It may well be the case that work for pupils not in school becomes more small 'blocks' of work for the time being.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your understanding and patience as we have all had to get used to a new way of educating pupils at home. Thank you also in advance for your understanding and patience as we get used to still more different practices and ways of working going forward.

Yours sincerely



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