

29th September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Since returning in September, like all schools, we have had to react quickly to ever-changing conditions, paying close attention to developments in government guidance and acting on the advice from Public Health England and the Staffordshire Covid-19 Health and Safety Team. We continue to monitor and develop our provision according to these changing circumstances, and most importantly, in line with feedback from our school community.

I am sure you will be reassured to hear that after a visit from the Staffordshire Covid-19 Health and Safety team on Friday, they confirmed that they are “*very happy*” with our provision and recognised that we are “*going over and above*” in the measures we continue to take in an attempt to keep our school community safe. Some of you will be aware they have changed their advice for management of our trim trail, and as you would expect, we have acted on this with immediate effect.

School remains a happy and settled environment; your children are engaged in their learning and have adapted positively to our new rules. I appreciate all that you are doing to support us in ensuring your child continues to observe the necessary Covid-19 protocols and helping to keep us all safe and well. As this crisis continues into the colder months, there are further steps we will need to take to continue to balance the safety of all with the provision of high quality learning.

With the need for pupils to be outside whenever possible at break and lunchtimes, a warm winter coat is now essential. We are in the process of installing a new covered area on the small playground by the music room, this will provide some additional shelter for pupils during these times.

As the requirements state we must keep windows and doors open as much as possible during the day, many of our classrooms are obviously becoming very cold. Pupils (and teachers!) can keep their coats on during lesson time, and I would suggest you also encourage your child to wear a sweatshirt or jumper under their blazers (plain blue or black if you do not have a school jumper). I am sure you will support us in ensuring your child wears something appropriate for school.

Please continue to communicate with us directly should you have any particular issues or concerns during this time. All the staff in school are determined to support the safety and wellbeing of the pupils in our care. We share your concerns and your feedback is vital to ensure our practices are as effective as they can possibly be. Our visit from the Health and Safety team on Friday was directly linked to the rise in cases in Wolverhampton, and served as another important reminder as to why we must continue to work pro-actively as a community to reduce the risk of infection.

I would also like to reassure you that we are continually reviewing and updating our plans to support children should the need to close re-occur. I have made contingency plans should this happen again for some or all of our pupils. (see attached link [Contingency-Plans-for-Different-Lockdown-Scenarios-28-September.pdf](#)). I do hope we will not need to act on any of these strategies! Please bear in mind that these plans may change as the COVID situation develops.



Finally, it has been wonderful to welcome our Year 7 pupils back to school. A full school helps us to maintain a positive, energetic learning environment and offers us all some much needed "normality" during these very challenging times.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'P J Bowers', with a horizontal line underneath.

P J Bowers
Headteacher