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Headteacher: Mrs M George



## Stockland Green School

15<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Dear parent or carer,

I hope this letter finds you well.

I am sure you were equally relieved to hear of the government's intention to have all students return to school in September. Whilst the guidance provided poses some logistical and organisational challenges, we have undertaken substantial planning and consultation to ensure the high-quality provision you would expect for the start of the new academic year.

As I am sure you will agree, now it is safe to do so, it is vital for all children to return to school to minimise, as far as possible, the longer-term impact of the pandemic on children's education, wellbeing and wider development.

Nevertheless, the guidance provided to schools has meant we have had to make some substantial and temporary changes to the routines, systems and organisation of the school, which are outlined in the detailed information below. I apologise for the depth and detail contained in the letter but hope you appreciate the need to convey this essential information before the commencement of the summer break.

### Hygiene, Health and Safety

As you will hopefully be aware, any person showing signs of Covid-19 must strictly follow the government guideline and advice, which is available by clicking [here](#):

Anyone who displays symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) can and should get a test. Tests can be booked online through the NHS testing and tracing for coronavirus website ([click here for information](#)) or ordered by telephone via NHS 119 for those without access to the internet.

Good hygiene routines remain the most effective way of limiting the spread of infection. For all pupils and staff attending school, specific protocols will be in place including:

- A requirement that people who are ill stay at home.
- Grouping children together and avoiding contact between groups
- Frequent cleaning of communal areas
- Social distancing where and when possible
- Where possible, classroom layouts have been amended to be forward-facing.
- Robust hand and respiratory hygiene
- Regular sanitisation of equipment
- Full engagement with NHS test-and-trace protocols

Students will be expected to follow and fully participate in the hygiene measures we have implemented. This will include students being responsible for sanitising their work areas before and after use as well as sanitising specific equipment before and after use. For example, in an IT lesson, every student will be expected to wipe down the mouse and keyboard before and after use. Such measures allow us to run our full curriculum and support every student and member of staff in the school.



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### Face-coverings

Public Health England does not (based on current evidence) recommend the use of face coverings in schools. They are not required in schools as students and staff are mixing in consistent groups, and because misuse may inadvertently increase the risk of transmission. There may also be negative effects on communication and, thus, education.

However, face coverings are required at all times on public transport for children over the age of 11. If a student uses a face covering on their way to school, there will be a specific protocol to be followed on arrival:

- Students must not touch the front of their face during use or when removing a face covering.
- They must wash or sanitise their hands immediately on arrival – as is the case with all students.
- Dispose of temporary face coverings in a covered bin or place reusable face coverings in a plastic bag they can take home with them and then clean their hands again before entering a classroom.

### What happens if my child becomes ill with symptoms of Covid-19 whilst in school?

Your child will be kept isolated at the earliest possible opportunity and you will be informed to enable immediate collection.

Upon collection you should arrange for a test at the earliest opportunity and the school will engage fully with the NHS test and trace system.

### Attendance

There has always been a clear link between good attendance and good progress in school.

In the current context, this is more important than ever before. In accordance with the government guidance, it is important for me to emphasise that, whilst we will provide support where needed, attendance is compulsory for all students, and it is the parents' or carers' duty to ensure their child attends regularly.

### Students who are self-isolating or following formal clinical shielding advice

Where a student is unable to attend school because they are complying with clinical and/or public health advice, we will offer them access to remote education.

Where children are not able to attend school as parents or carers are following clinical and/or public health advice, absence will not be penalised.

### Students and families who are anxious about returning to school

Whilst all other students must attend school, we will naturally bear in mind the concerns of students, parents and households who may be reluctant or anxious about returning and put the right support in place to address this.

This may include students who have themselves been shielding previously but have been advised that this is no longer necessary, those living in households where someone is clinically vulnerable, or those concerned about the comparatively increased risk from coronavirus (COVID-19), including those from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) backgrounds or who have certain conditions such as obesity and diabetes.



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Whilst I hope the information in this letter provides reassurance around the measures we are taking, please contact the relevant House team at the earliest opportunity if there is a specific issue or concern you would like to discuss. ([tame@stockgrn.bham.sch.uk](mailto:tame@stockgrn.bham.sch.uk), [cole@stockgrn.bham.sch.uk](mailto:cole@stockgrn.bham.sch.uk), [rea@stockgrn.bham.sch.uk](mailto:rea@stockgrn.bham.sch.uk)).

### Curriculum ‘bubbles’

One of the most significant measures for the school is the creation of curriculum ‘bubbles’, which allow students to be maintained in specific groups, limiting interaction with other ‘bubbles’ as much as possible.

We have organised students into year-group bubbles. For the Year 7-9 bubbles they will be allocated a set of ‘home-rooms’, which is, effectively, an area of the school in which most of their lessons will take place. For example, our new Year 7 intake will be in Maths and all lessons will be delivered in this area with any movement between groups not impacting on any other bubble. For our Key Stage 4 students, there will be greater movement as they will be able to access to specialist rooms as per their timetable. Clear movement plans will be in place so students will move around the building avoiding any other bubbles.

As we settle into this new way of working, we will ensure that our Key Stage 3 students do access the specialist classrooms, but this will be a gradual process. Please do be reassured that the students will all study the full curriculum. For example, Year 7 may be using keyboards in Music whilst Year 8 are using ukuleles and so on.

Importantly, student movement around the school site will be minimal and teachers will move to the students, rather than the traditional movement of pupils from room to room.

### Curriculum content

We are pleased to confirm that we have not removed any subject or lesson time from the curriculum. Students will continue to follow a broad and balanced curriculum in all year groups.

Heads of Faculties, with their teams, have worked hard over recent weeks to adapt planning for September and to ensure that learning time is maximised to review and re-teach as well as focusing on essential teaching to build new knowledge, understanding and skills. No student will be disadvantaged, or sanctioned, as a result of the work not completed during lockdown.

### Student arrival at school

The arrival at school will need to be slightly staggered to allow us to manage students effectively and to minimise potential mixing between different bubbles. The table below sets out the arrangements:

Year	Arrival Time	Arrival Route
11	08:50	Via Slade Road entrance and line up on Civic Square
10	08:50	Via Marsh Hill entrance and line up on the playground
9	09:00	Via Slade Road entrance and line up on Civic Square
8	09:00	Via Marsh Hill entrance and line up on the playground
7	09:10	Via Slade Road entrance and line up on Civic Square

Please note, students will not be allowed onto site before the allocated times above or through the incorrect gate.



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It is important that students are not congregating outside school before the start of school and I would ask that, where possible, you support us by ensuring your child only reports to school for the allotted time. Parents or carers should also not gather at the gates as this will make it very difficult to adhere to social distancing guidelines, so please arrange to meet your child away from the school gates.

## End of School

To facilitate the smooth end to the school day, and to provide a distinct gap between different bubbles, leaving site, the end to the school day will be slightly staggered and students will be dismissed by the same gate through which they entered. Exit times are as follows:

Year 11	15:05
Year 10	15:05
Year 9	15:10
Year 8	15:10
Year 7	15:15

Once the extracurricular timetable is in operation as well as any P7s for Year 11, we will be back in touch with any further information required about exiting school.

## Pastoral Care & Support

We fully appreciate that students are going to need support in this transition for many different reasons. Each bubble will have a team of pastoral staff on hand to provide support and guidance. Mentoring and intervention will still be taking place but will happen in bubble areas rather than in B2A or other regular spaces. Please be reassured that we continue to operate our pastoral motto "Right person, right child at the right time" as we appreciate that relationships are already established and will need maintaining.

## Breaktimes and Lunchtimes

When we first return to school there will not be a breakfast or break service provided by our catering company. This is something we will look to reintroduce as we progress through the first term.

Breaks and lunchtimes will be staggered into three slots. Lunch will be served out of the Café as normal, but there will be the exact same service out of the school Hall. There will be a hot meal choice and all menus will be shared in September. Our outside space will be split into half so one bubble will access the front of school for their recreational space whilst another bubble will be around the back and side of school. The bubbles will not mix, and the duty staff will enforce this.

## Equipment

It will be essential for us to significantly restrict and limit the amount of shared resources and equipment. Accordingly, it is important for all students to have the following:

- Black pens (at least two)
- Green pen



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- Pencil(s)
- Ruler- 30cm
- Rubber and pencil sharpener
- Glue Stick
- Highlighters
- Protractor and compass
- Pencil Case
- Scientific calculator
- Suitable school bag
- Hand sanitiser and tissues for personal use
- Knowledge Organiser. The Knowledge Organiser is provided by the school, but it is essential equipment for every day and all students must have it with them. It is their responsibility to maintain and keep safe.

### Behaviour Policy and Expectations

As I am sure you appreciate the arrangements outlined within this letter are for the safety and security of all students and staff. As a school, we have always expected the highest standards from our students, and this will remain the case. We also recognise that the overwhelming majority of our students meet our high standards for conduct and behaviour every single day.

It is essential and right that our focus is on excellent teaching and learning. Students, therefore, will be expected to abide by the full remit of our behaviour policy, including the new guidance, and especially follow all health and safety expectations so that learning can take place in a calm, orderly and positive learning environment in which we can reconnect and thrive.

However, we also fully understand and appreciate that a great many students will have faced a diverse range of personal, social and emotional challenges during this period and we are committed to providing the right support.

Our policies, approach and curriculum in the first term, and beyond, will have an explicit and consistent focus on well-being to ensure that students are able to access the support they need.

The core elements of the behaviour policy will remain in place and an appendix outlining the minor adjustments for September, will be made available on the website. Our BfL system remains with support being given in the first instance from the bubble staff and removal to our Behaviour Support Room will only be considered if behaviour continues to be disruptive or unsafe. Detentions will run for 30 minutes after school and will be conducted in student bubbles. You will continue to be notified by text of a same day detention.

### Uniform expectations

In accordance with government guidance, the uniform policy will remain in place in September and all students will be expected to fully respect the policy.

We thank you, in advance for your support and recognise that the vast majority of our students report to school every day looking smart and proud to wear the uniform. However, we also request that, if you feel there will be a specific barrier to meeting the uniform policy, or if you are facing particular hardship, you should contact your child's pastoral lead at the earliest opportunity to discuss the support we can provide.



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## Adjustments for days on which students have timetabled PE

Please note: on the days which students have a timetabled PE lesson, they are able to come to school in their PE kit for the day to avoid any need to use the changing rooms. If students have not purchased the Stockland Green three quarter zip up training top then they will need to wear their school jumper over their PE T-shirt. All of Year 7 and Year 8 should have the top as it's part of their PE kit, so the jumper prevents this purchase for the older year groups. However just as when the PE kit was introduced, if you'd like to buy it then you can. No hoodies or other sports tops are permitted.

## Specific arrangements for the first week of term only

As there are significant changes to school life for all students, we feel that it is important for all students to have a transition day so we can re-establish relationships and routines with fewer students in school. This also gives leaders the opportunity to ensure that everything runs smoothly with individual bubbles before we are all together. Therefore, we will follow the timetable below. All students to arrive to school through their allotted entrance and at the allotted time as detailed earlier in the letter.

Date	Arrangements
<b>Monday 31<sup>st</sup> August</b>	Bank Holiday – school closed to all
<b>Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September</b>	Staff Training
<b>Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September</b>  Years 8-11 not in school	<b>Year 7</b> Students <b>arrive at 09:10</b> through <b>Slade Road entrance</b> where they will be met on Civic Square. Parents will not be able to come onto site so please say any goodbyes on Slade Road and please observe social distancing. We do appreciate this is a very nervous time for you all, but I hope you appreciate the need to reduce visitors on site <b>Leave site 15:15</b>
<b>Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September</b>  Years 7, 10 & 11 not in school	<b>Year 8</b> Students to <b>arrive at 09:00</b> through <b>Marsh Hill entrance</b> to be met on the playground by tutors <b>Year 9</b> Students to <b>arrive at 09:00</b> through <b>Slade Road entrance</b> to be met on Civic Square by tutors <b>Both groups leave site at 15:10 via the entrance they arrived at</b>
<b>Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September</b>  Years 7-9 not in school	<b>Year 10</b> Students to <b>arrive at 08:50</b> through <b>Marsh Hill entrance</b> to be met on the playground by tutors <b>Year 11</b> Students to <b>arrive at 08:50</b> through <b>Slade Road entrance</b> to be met on Civic Square by tutors <b>Both groups leave site at 15:05 via the entrance they arrived at</b>
<b>Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>All year groups in school. Entrance and time as per the previous week.</b>



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Part of the planned reintegration programme for all students will include detailed guidance around the new routines and expectations as well as an opportunity to revisit our core values and expectations for teaching, learning and good student conduct. Well-being will permeate all aspects of this day as we really do want to ensure students can be fully supported as we move to getting back to fulltime school.

### Extra-Curricular Activities and Visits

Extra-curricular activities will be able to take place with year-groups and small consistent groups. Such activities will not begin immediately, and updates will be provided at the start of the academic year

We very much value the opportunities and experiences that trips and visits provide, especially in the current context. We will continue to act in accordance with government guidance and advice and will provide information when available and relevant.

### Parent and Carer Access to School Site.

In accordance with the measures above, we will need to carefully control visitors to site.

Whilst we continue to highly value the parentship between home and school, parents or carers must only come into reception or onto school site with prior agreement or for a pre-arranged appointment.

I would like to thank you for taking the time to read the information contained in this letter. We are very much looking forward to welcoming back students to school and we eagerly look forward to seeing them all in September.

Further government advice and information for parents is available by clicking [here](#):

Please also take some time to ensure we have the right contact details for your child. This can be done by contacting reception if your contact details have changed.

In the meantime, if you have any queries that are not specifically addressed in this letter or in the information on the government website, please contact school through the usual channels.

I wish you all a safe and happy summer holiday and I can't wait for school to be filled with our students and staff as it's them that make our school such a special place.

Yours faithfully

**Mrs M George**  
Headteacher



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