



WOODLANDS SCHOOL

11th September 2020

Dear parents / carers,

As we come to the end of the first full week in school I wanted to write to you to let you know how we are getting on.

It has been in some ways a very strange start to the term with respect to all the COVID-19 procedures we have had to put in place, but in other ways it has been very normal.

It has been great to see everyone back in school. Most of our pupils have come back with an eagerness to learn. We have assured them that they are no further behind anyone else and that if all pupils are "3 months behind" as is being reported in the press, then no one is actually behind because they have all missed the same. There is a lot of hysteria around schools "being closed for half a school year" when in fact everyone has missed just one term.

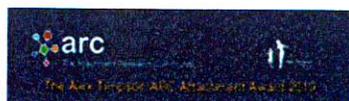
The new school uniform looks great. It seems to be a colour that suits everyone and looks equally smart on our primary and secondary pupils. A lot of the staff have said they like it so much they want to buy some too. We have decided to offer a school fleece, in black with the new logo, for sale, the cost of a fleece will be £20. If you would like to order your son/daughter a fleece please inform the school office the size you require and send the money with the order. In light of the fact that rooms now have to be well ventilated with windows open, even in the winter, we will allow pupils to wear this fleece in school.

We have launched a new website which is more accessible on mobile phones and will be more frequently updated with information from school. This has sections for each "branch" of our school so visitors to the website can find the information they need quickly. The website can be found at:

<https://www.woodlands.school>

There are some aspects of the site that are still in pilot form with information to be added later.

Finally, from me, a request. We have had a very positive start to the term but a small number of pupils have chosen to engage in risky behaviour that could result in an increased risk of transmission of COVID-19, such as fake coughing or repeated spitting on the floor outside. It is hugely important that this does not happen. As I am sure you understand, I have a duty of care to all members of our community: pupils and staff, but I also include you and your families in that responsibility. Could you please reinforce the messages around COVID safety with your child / charge as this will enable school to remain open safely and avoid bring a virus home to your families.



Woodlands School

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COVID safety:

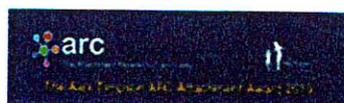
- Wash your hands frequently, for 20 seconds, or use sanitiser
- Cough or sneeze into a tissue and out it in the bin. If you don't have a tissue use the crook of your arm
- Maintain social distancing where you can and if you can't wear a face covering

I have included an easy reference grid to help you understand when your child should not be in school and what to do if they or a member of their household have symptoms of / or test positive for COVID-19. I know there is a dizzying amount of information out there which often seems confusing so I hope that helps.

Best wishes,

Jules Taylor

Headteacher



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**Covid-19 related pupil absence
A quick reference guide for parents**

What to do if	Action Needed	Return to school when.....
My Child has Covid-19 symptoms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HIGH TEMPERATURE – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back. A NEW CONTINUOUS COUGH this means coughing a lot more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24hrs . A LOSS OR CHANGE TO YOUR SENSE OF SMELL OR TASTE..this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything. 	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL Contact school to inform us. Self-isolate the whole household for 14 days. Get a test. INFORM SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY ABOUT TEST RESULT The test comes back negative
My Child tests positive for covid-19.....	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL Contact school to inform us Agree an earliest date for possible return. Minimum of 10 days. Self-isolate the whole household for 14 days. Bubble isolates/remote learning. They feel better. They can return after 10 days even if they have a cough or loss of taste/smell. These symptoms can last for several weeks.
My Child tests negative	CONTACT THE SCHOOL Discuss when your child can come back to school (same day/next day) The test comes back negative.
My child is ill with symptoms not linked to covid-19	FOLLOW USUAL SCHOOL ABSENCE POLICY PROCEDURE	After 48hrs following the last bout of sickness/diarrhoea if this is the cause of absence
Someone in my household has covid-19 symptoms	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL Contact school. Self-isolate the whole household for 14 days. Household members to get tested. INFORM SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY ABOUT TEST RESULTS The test comes back negative.
Someone in my household tests positive for covid-19	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL Contact school Agree an earliest date for possible return. Minimum of 14 days The child has completed 14 days of isolation
NHS test & trace has identified my child has been in close contact of someone with symptoms of confirmed covid-19	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL. CONTACT SCHOOL Agree an earliest date for possible return. Minimum of 14 daysThe child has completed 14 days of isolation
We/my child has travelled and has to self-isolate as a period of quarantine.	Do not take unauthorised leave in term time. Consider quarantine requirements and FCO advice when booking travel Returning from a destination where quarantine is needed. Agree an earliest date for possible return. Minimum of 14 days from return date. Self-isolate the whole household The quarantine period of 14 days has been completed
We have received medical advice that my child must resume shielding	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL CONTACT SCHOOL Shield until you are informed that restrictions are lifted and shielding is paused again. School inform you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to school.
My child's bubble is closed due to a covid-19 outbreak in school.	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL At home support your child with remote education provided by school. Your child will need to isolate for 14 days.School will inform you when the bubble will be reopened.