

## Parent Forum: A summary of Questions and Answers - 5<sup>th</sup> October 2020

### **Q. Issue raised about students sanitising their hands and the cleaning of classroom PCs**

*A. Students and staff should be sanitising every time they change rooms. There is sanitiser in all rooms, and large sanitiser units at the entrance to year group learning zones and other entrances/exits to buildings around school. We have systems in place to keep reminding everyone about these protective measures.*

### **Q. What are the plans in place for PE lessons as the weather becomes more wintery?**

*A. We are very aware of the fact that a lot of our PE activities are taking place outside. This is healthy for a number of reasons and safer during COVID-19. With our PE staff team, we will keep arrangements under review, but PE is likely to take place in most conditions outside. A key reason for not allowing students to wear PE kit to school is so they are not cold in winter and do not remain in wet PE kit from PE lessons all day.*

### **Q. Reporting an absence**

*A. Do continue to email our Attendance email address to report an absence. Attendance will only telephone if we haven't heard from a family (following our early warning text system).*

### **Q. A question about sixth form arrangements for students who live further from school**

*A. Students are able to remain in school and use our sixth form study centre to work.*

### **Q. Will students be required to wear face coverings?**

*A. Currently the guidance does not require staff or students to wear face coverings. We have asked staff to do so when on duty inside the building and at changeover if in a busy corridor. This is a protective measure for staff should they be within 2 metres of students. We are constantly reviewing arrangements for students.*

### **Q. A question about the school's catering offer and the serving of hot food**

*A. The Canteen team are reviewing its menu very regularly, to respond to the demand from students. There are a range of options for students, including hot food. We have a mix of indoor and outdoor seating options for students.*

### **Q. What is there for students to do after they have eaten lunch?**

*A. Lunch lasts 30 minutes which means it is difficult to offer co-curricular activities. However, students have various areas to sit and chat. The field and astro-turf is also supervised and open for students to use, including playing football within their year groups with protective measures in place.*

### **Q. How will paybacks operate?**

*A. We have been reviewing our arrangements for paybacks. We are currently trialling the communication of paybacks via Class Charts. More information will follow after half-term. All paybacks will take place within year group bubbles.*

### **Q. How will the school manage different start times in the mornings for siblings?**

*A. We are developing routines for managing this issue which will become more difficult in cold and/or wet conditions throughout winter. There will be arrangements in place for students to go into school when they arrive in very cold and/or wet conditions which will be communicated to students via year teams.*

### **Q. A concern raised about whether there is enough food in the Dining Hall**

*A. The Catering team have been adapting the amount of food prepared. There is a difficult balance to be struck between having enough food, yet minimizing waste. Rather than running out of food, the issue on a limited number of occasions has been that there were limited choices on some occasions at break at the beginning of term.*



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**Q. Will students have to wait in the car park if very wet weather?**

*A. No – we have arrangements already in place to ensure this does not happen. We tested arrangements last Friday very effectively. Some students need to still consider wearing a coat to school to help them stay drier on their walk to school.*

**Q. Heating in the winter**

*A. We have systems in place to run our heating, yet still ventilate classrooms. We have taken advice from our external health & safety consultants and have been testing our arrangements in advance of very cold weather. This includes keeping some external doors open where possible, keeping internal classroom doors open, closing windows if very wet conditions, and ventilating before school, between lessons, at break and lunchtime.*

**Thank you to all parents for joining our Parents' Forum.**



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