

4 September 2020

Dear Families

To see scholars back in the academy this week has been great. We cannot wait to welcome our Year 8 and Year 12 scholars on site on Monday.

It has been incredible to see many of our youngsters adapting quickly to our new routines and re-engaging in routines and learning. Year 7 have been with us all week and have been extremely impressive, an amazing group of resilient young people.

Thank you for your patience, positivity and feedback whilst understanding our new arrangements. Like all best laid plans, until we have scholars on site, the reality of plans are hard to visually imagine.

Just a few reminders and information in answers to some questions you have raised.

#### **Year group start times and entry**

In line with Government guidelines we are operating year group bubbles. All year groups have a set entry point and time. Please check the website for individual year group return letters which shows this information - [www.dixonsaa.com](http://www.dixonsaa.com)

We will be adhering to these start times in order to keep bubbles separate in the academy. I encourage you to ensure your child arrives on site as close to their start time as possible, particularly as the weather will be changing. Some scholars are currently arriving 45 minutes before their designated times and waiting outside a very long time.

#### **Exit times**

Exiting off site is working very well. In terms of bubbles exiting at different times. Our Primary sector will be amending their finish times in order to ease pressure and congestion on the road and surrounding areas from Monday and Mrs Greenwood has written with details.

#### **Parent social distancing**

From Monday we do not want parents entering the Secondary school site in order to help with social distancing. I appreciate Year 7 parents particularly have helped support scholars with new routines and settling in. They have now learned this and staff will continue to be on site from the bottom gate. As we know transmission of the virus between adults is much higher so it is vital that we try to minimise the number of adults on site to help protect families, staff and scholars as much as possible. Please help us keep everybody safe.

#### **Classrooms and routines**

In Secondary all classrooms have been arranged to ensure scholars are all facing forwards (same direction) as per Government guidelines. There are sanitising wipes, tissues, gloves and hand sanitiser in every classroom. These are used frequently by scholars and staff as part of classroom routines.

There are also sanitising units around the building and outside in scholars social space bubbles. Additional sanitisers are placed in large spaces for scholars to use freely when passing.



## Absence

It is important that you phone the office to report any absence. If symptoms are Covid related (high temperature, new and continuous cough, loss of taste or smell) you must take your child for a test and stay at home until you have received the results. All members of the household must stay at home until the test outcome is known.

Please inform the academy as soon as you receive your results so that we can take any necessary action quickly.

Please do get in touch on [admindaa@dixonsaa.com](mailto:admindaa@dixonsaa.com) if you have any worries or concerns, we do take your feedback on board.

Our commitment to the safety of everyone within the school community remains our priority.

Again, thank you for your positivity, flexibility and understanding as we work through this period of adjustment.

Yours sincerely



C Skelding  
Executive Principal

