

9<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that this letter finds you all safe and well. We are already 6 weeks into this academic year and everyone has settled into new rules and routines. This week, all classes were reminded of why all the adaptations within school are so necessary and that every pupil has a part to play in keeping school and our community safe. We are so proud of how the overwhelming majority of pupils have responded to the 'new normal' and of their positive approach to learning after so much time out of school. We are mindful though, that this has been (and continues to be) a difficult time for some of our families and if you have any concerns about your child's wellbeing, please do get in touch with us either by phone or via [help@hydehighschool.uk](mailto:help@hydehighschool.uk)

Apologies for the length of this letter, please persevere as it contains a variety of important information.

### **Dropping off/Collecting pupils**

Please do not drop off your child directly outside school. This week a pupil was **very** nearly hit by a parent reversing into the school gateway to turn round at a time when lots of pupils were on their way in to school. For the safety of our pupils and the families walking to the primary school across the road, you should arrange to drop off or collect your child away from school and they can walk the short distance from/to your car. Please be considerate of local residents when parking at the start/end of the school day.

### **Crossing patrol**

There have been a number of occasions recently when the 'lollipop lady' has not been on duty outside our school. Unfortunately, we are not always notified in advance and we are not provided with any cover in the event of her absence. This situation makes our request for parents to refrain from dropping pupils off near to school all the more important; many thanks for your understanding and your cooperation.

### **Go 4 Schools**

A reminder that all parents have access to information about your child's timetable, attendance, progress, homework etc via Go4Schools. As long as we have your current email address, you can log in online at [www.go4schools.com](http://www.go4schools.com) where you simply click the 'parents' icon in the top right hand corner.

### **HPV Vaccinations for Year 9**

These second dose vaccinations were due in the summer term but did not take place because of lockdown. Consent forms were collected last year and the vaccinations will now take place on the 2nd and 3rd of November. If you have any queries, please contact Mrs Fawcett via [admin@hydehighschool.uk](mailto:admin@hydehighschool.uk)

### **INSET days**

A reminder that next Friday (16th October) is a staff training day and school will be closed to all pupils. There will be a further training day on Friday 13th November.

### **Contingency Plans for any additional lockdown measures**

I am very much hoping that school will be able to remain fully open from now on, but it would be remiss not to have plans in place in case we are forced to reduce on-site provision. The government has identified four tiers of national restriction and I am summarising the plans below just so that you are aware of how we would operate in each scenario. Please note that there is not a one-size-fits-all approach and we will need to be ready to respond flexibly and quickly to whatever challenges may arise.

Tier	Context and challenge	Planning response
Tier 1	<p>This is our current situation. School is fully open to all pupils full time, with face coverings required in corridors and communal areas.</p> <p><b>Challenges:</b></p> <p>Individual pupils or groups of pupils may have to self-isolate for up to 14 days. This is unpredictable and is likely to be the case for an extended period of time.</p> <p>Some staff will be required to self-isolate due to displaying symptoms of Covid-19, testing positive for the virus or being identified as a contact of someone testing positive. Again, this is unpredictable and is likely to be the case for an extended period of time.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Pupils who are self-isolating must complete the work set on Google Classroom to ensure that they do not fall behind whilst out of school.</li> <li>● Links provided to relevant websites e.g. Oak Academy, BBC Bitesize, GCSE pod.</li> <li>● Staff who are self-isolating but are not ill will continue to set work from home for all their classes.</li> <li>● Pre-recorded explanations.</li> <li>● Securing an additional Cover Supervisor.</li> <li>● Securing additional supply teachers.</li> <li>● In the extreme event of very high staff absence, individual year groups may have to work from home for a day at short notice.</li> </ul>
Tier 2	<p>School moves to a rota model, combining on-site provision with remote education. Full-time attendance on site continues for vulnerable children and the children of critical workers. All other pupils should not attend on site except for their rota time.</p> <p>At Hyde, pupils would attend school in two week blocks – two weeks in school and then two weeks learning at home. Block A would be Key Stage 4 pupils (Years 10 and 11), Block B would be Key Stage 3 pupils (Years 7, 8 and 9)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Adjusted schemes of work which keep up the pace and challenge of ‘normal’ school.</li> <li>● Work will be set on Google Classroom for pupils learning remotely.</li> <li>● Review of digital access for all our learners to ensure that all are able to access learning.</li> <li>● In-school supervision of vulnerable children and the children of critical workers to ensure that they are able to access the same work as peers who are learning remotely.</li> </ul>
Tier 3	<p>School would allow full-time on-site provision only to vulnerable children, the children of critical workers and selected year groups (to be identified by the Department for Education). Other pupils would not attend on site. Remote education to be provided for all other pupils.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Adjusted schemes of work for remote learning which keep up the pace and challenge of ‘normal’ school.</li> <li>● Work will be set on Google Classroom for pupils learning remotely.</li> <li>● Full curriculum for year group/s attending.</li> <li>● In-school supervision of vulnerable children and the children of critical workers to ensure that they are supported to access the same work as peers who are learning remotely.</li> </ul>
Tier 4	<p>Schools will allow full-time attendance on site <b>only</b> to our priority groups: vulnerable children and the children of critical workers. All other pupils would not attend on site. Remote education to be provided for all other pupils.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Adjusted schemes of work for remote learning which keep up the pace and challenge of ‘normal’ school.</li> <li>● Work will be set on Google Classroom for all pupils.</li> <li>● In-school supervision of vulnerable children and the children of critical workers to ensure that they are supported to access the same work as peers who are learning remotely.</li> </ul>

The good news is that we are **currently operating fully** with no groups of pupils having to self-isolate.

Please remember that if your child, or anyone in your household, is displaying symptoms of Covid-19, your child must **NOT** attend school. You should inform school if this is the case.

If your child receives a positive test result, please let school know immediately. If this happens 'out of hours' e.g. after 4pm or at the weekend, please email me directly on [a.radcliffe@hydehighschool.uk](mailto:a.radcliffe@hydehighschool.uk) so that we can act quickly and keep everyone safe. All other queries should be addressed to [admin@hydehighschool.uk](mailto:admin@hydehighschool.uk).

Please ensure that we have your up-to-date phone number and email address. In the unfortunate event of having to ask a class to self-isolate at short notice, our first method of contacting groups of parents will be text message and so it is important that we have the correct numbers.

### **COVID-19 in Tameside**

Our Local Authority has asked schools to reiterate that, as the number of new coronavirus infections across Tameside is continuing to increase, it is as important as ever to continue to do everything we can to protect ourselves and others from this disease.

The basic steps to do this remain the same so please do keep remembering to:

- Wash hands regularly with soap and running water
- Keep social distancing of at least 2 metres from those outside of your household
- If you or someone you live with develops symptoms of COVID-19 (cough; fever; change or loss of smell/taste) everyone in your house (and support bubble) must isolate immediately and the person with symptoms should get tested
- Remain in isolation if you test positive (isolate for 10 days) or if you are a close contact of someone who has tested positive (isolate for 14 days) – *this means you and your household **must not** leave the house at all during this period, even to go to the shops*
- Wear a face covering when required and particularly in indoor and more enclosed spaces where social distancing is difficult

If you have symptoms isolate immediately and book a test - [www.nhs.uk/coronavirus](http://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus) or call 119

### **Restrictions**

With the high rates of COVID-19 infections in Tameside, it is important to remember that we are currently under additional restrictions to reduce the spread. It is illegal to break these restrictions and there are certain things that you **must not** do

- **Do not mix indoors with any other households** (apart from support bubbles and childcare support bubbles, directly for childcare purposes) – this means you cannot meet with friends or family you do not live with. This includes any gatherings such as birthday parties or sleep-overs
- **Do not meet outdoors in groups of more than 6 people** – if meeting outdoors with anyone outside your household you must still observe social distancing

The police will be able to take action against anyone who breaks these rules, including asking people to disperse and issuing fixed penalty notices starting at £200.

As well as these rules, we are also advised that we should not socialise with people we do not live with (unless they're in our support bubble), in any public venue. This includes pubs, restaurants, cafes, shops, places of worship, community centres, leisure and entertainment venues, or visitor attractions and parks.

You can find more information at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/greater-manchester-local-restrictions>

The serious situation we are in, and the continued spread of the virus means we must all play our part, now more than ever, to protect our families and the school community. This will help to make sure that we can continue to keep children in school. Following these restrictions and reducing the spread is the fastest way to get restrictions lifted again.

I would like to thank all our families for ensuring that your child brings their face mask and is ready to learn alongside all the other steps you are taking to help keep our community safe.

### **Senior Student Leadership Team**

On a hugely positive note, I am delighted to inform you that we have now finalised our Student Leadership Team for this year. Our Head Boy and Head Girl are Max and Georgia and they will be ably supported by Deputy Head Girls Jessica and Elyse and Student Lead Kaitlyn. They are fabulous ambassadors for our school and outstanding role models - superstars!



*Senior Student Leadership Team 2020-21*

We are incredibly proud of all of our pupils and their resilient approach throughout this unusual period. Thank you so much for your understanding and your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

*ARadcliffe*

Andrea Radcliffe

Headteacher.