

7th October 2020

Year Group Bubbles

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to inform you that we have taken the decision to move from year group bubbles to class bubbles with immediate effect in years 7 to 9. This is as a result of rising numbers of positive cases in our locality as well as a reported positive case at one of our feeder primary schools last night. This is a precautionary but necessary measure to ensure that the virus does not spread amongst our student population.

Class bubbles will ensure that should there be a positive case within the Academy, we would be less likely to have to send an entire year group home to self-isolate for two weeks, thus minimising further disruption to the students' learning. As physical health (PE) is essential for all students at this time, due to the limitations of changing rooms, in some cases two class bubbles will join each other for their PE lessons once per week. We will minimise the contact they have with each other as much as it is practically feasible and this will take effect on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2020. Should cases rise further in the locality and nationally we will again review this decision and make amendments to our procedures based on what national evidence is telling us in order to make the best decision for the health of all children within our community.

Lunchtime arrangements will be altered to ensure that each class bubble has the opportunity to take an outdoor break time which means that classes will not mix with students from other class bubbles. We ask for your support at this time with ensuring that students are following Government guidance both in and outside of the Academy. This means that they should not socialise in groups of more than six people and maintain at least 1m apart at all times. For students to be able to attend school as much as possible, it is very important that they adhere to the national guidance outside of the Academy at all times.

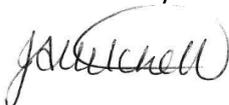
We appreciate that this is a difficult time for young people and our parent community but these measures are crucial if we are to keep our student population safe and their families safe.

Your child does not require a COVID test unless they develop symptoms of the virus. **We ask that you inform the Academy immediately if anyone in your household develops symptoms or receives a positive test result.**

If you have not already done so, please download the **MyEd** app in order to stay up to date with developments. This is our primary method of communication and will enable you to receive live updates. Please also keep an eye on our Facebook and Twitter accounts, as well as our website for further information.

We would like to thank you all for your support during these difficult and uncertain times; we are proud to be part of such a resilient and supportive community.

Yours faithfully



Mrs J Mitchell  
CEO/Principal