

11 September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Firstly, can I take the opportunity to thank everybody for their efforts in supporting our student's safe return to school. It has been a fantastic start to the academic year and our students are quickly rising to the expectations set to them by the academy.

This year will pose challenges for all of us and we will repeatedly have to show our strength, resilience and flexibility to overcome the challenges of the pandemic. It is important that as parents you are mindful of this and that we continue to work in partnership to support your child.

Due to the increased popularity of the academy and the unprecedented demand for parents to collect their young people from school. Our academy site at the end of the day has become gridlocked and unsafe for our students.

As of Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September, we will introduce a number of safety features to ensure that we can safeguard your child. These are;

- The bottom car park will be closed to cars and parents at the end of the day. If you wish to park on the site please do so in the top car park. (Unless you are a blue badge holder)
- Parents are requested to remain in their vehicles and students can walk up to the car park to be collected. Students will be informed of these arrangements.

Please can I also remind parents that we share our site with Beechcliffe Special School and we need to be respectful of our neighbours and the needs of their students. I would also like to remind parents that the staff on site are only trying to support and safeguard your children. Please maintain positive relationships and understand the challenges that schools currently face. Any parent who does not follow this guidance or is rude or confrontational to staff will be banned from using the site.

### **ILLNESS**

If your child is feeling unwell and has any of the main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), get a test as soon as possible. Stay at home until you get the result.

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Most people with coronavirus have at least 1 of these symptoms.

**What to do if you have symptoms**

If you have any of the main symptoms of coronavirus:

1. Get a test to check if you have coronavirus as soon as possible.
2. Stay at home and do not have visitors until you get your test result – only leave your home to have a test.

Anyone you live with, and anyone in your support bubble, must also stay at home until you get your result.

Thank you for your ongoing support in continue to make our academy and safe place.

Regards,

Jon Skurr  
Head of School