



**Mr G Panayiotou – Headteacher**  
**Mr John McNichol – Chair of Governors**

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Our Ref: GP/NF

2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

We hope you had a restful half term. Following the announcement this weekend regarding a return to partial lockdown, we wanted to write to keep you up to date with developments at the academy.

As of today, we have not received any up to date guidance from the Department for Education however, we do know that there is an expectation that schools will remain open to all pupils throughout the period of enhanced national restrictions.

Until new guidance is issued, the academy will continue to follow the most up to date guidance from the DfE regarding the full opening of schools. This includes an enhanced hand hygiene and cleaning regime, split breaks and lunches and a one way system to limit contact. As per the guidance, consistent groups have been established at Key Stage 3 and seating plans are in place to accurately identify pupil contacts.

As Wakefield moved into tighter restrictions, we introduced the compulsory wearing of face coverings in areas where it is difficult to maintain social distancing e.g. on corridors. Pupils have responded really well to this and are now in a routine of putting face coverings on as they enter and walk around the building.

The current guidance is that pupils should not wear face coverings in lessons and that they do not need to socially distance from each other in lessons as long as they remain in their bubbles and sit side by side, facing forward as much as possible. The guidance also states that brief transitory passing on corridors (e.g. moving between lessons) is low risk however, we have introduced staggered end times for lessons to reduce the numbers on corridors at any one time.

To date, the systems of controls have supported a safe return to the academy for pupils. Where pupils have received a positive test, the academy has been able to quickly identify the small number of proximity contacts and ask them to self-isolate. To the best of our knowledge, where a pupil has received a positive test, those required to isolate have not gone on to test positive for coronavirus. **Please remember that we will always contact parents directly by phone if it is necessary for your son/daughter to isolate.**

As we move towards greater restrictions, the DfE have asked us to remind parents of the importance of pupils continuing to follow national guidance outside of the academy, ensure good hand hygiene, wear a face covering where necessary and stay at home unless they are attending school or exercising.

For those pupils who do need to self-isolate, there is an extensive package of on-line resources available on the academy website and via Show my Homework to ensure lost learning is minimal.

We will contact you later this week as the guidance for schools is updated.

Yours faithfully

**Mr G Panayiotou**  
Headteacher

Yours faithfully

**Mrs D Cook**  
Associate Headteacher



Healthy Schools



This school has an  
**Apprenticeships**  
Apprenticeship Champion

