



Hinde House

2 - 16 ACADEMY

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Executive Principal: Victoria Simcock

10 July 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

The government announcement that schools will be open for all students from September 2020 has seen us working hard to ensure we can welcome our students back safely into school in September. Attendance at school again becomes mandatory, and a legal expectation, and we are really looking forward to welcoming our students back.

We have been looking after children of key workers and those classed by the government as vulnerable since 23 March and last month we also welcomed back students in EYFS/Y1/Y6 and Y10. We adopted bubbles for our students to learn in and we approached this wider opening with much caution and detailed planning. This has gone extremely well as our safety measures and risk assessments are robust.

Thank you to those parents who sent their children back into school as requested – it has been lovely to see them - and we believe they have benefited from being back in school. We are delighted that we can now look forward to seeing all our wonderful students back in school next term!

We are currently working to complete new and detailed risk assessments and we have worked out exactly what school will look like and feel like when your child returns. The Government has stated: *'Given the improved position, the balance of risk is now overwhelmingly in favour of children returning to school. For the vast majority of children, the benefits of being back in school far outweigh the very low risk from coronavirus (COVID-19).'*

We have thus decided that our students will be in social bubbles, in class or year bubble only, and we will ensure that we reduce contact between different groups of students. We intend to maintain the stringent cleaning and disinfecting processes we have already implemented in both sites in order to ensure that the academy is as safe as can be for your child.

Children in the primary school will be taught by their class teacher and designated teaching assistants. They will have staggered start and finish times and will not mix with other year groups. They will have their own entrances and exits.

Children in the secondary school will be taught in a designated bubble with no more than 20 students in the bubble. They will have their own classroom learning base and they will be with the same teacher every day. Different year groups will have access to different zones and yards around the building. Lessons will be streamed into their learning base through the use of Microsoft Teams and these lessons will be differentiated, based on the ability groupings of the social bubbles. Subject specialists will be delivering these streamed lessons to all year groups.

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Hinde House 2-16 Academy
Shiregreen Lane
Sheffield S5 6AG
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Chair: David Drayson
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Each student will have their own desk, seat and equipment and seating plans must be adhered to at all times. We intend to return to a broad and balanced curriculum across the entire academy.

In September, our priority will be to regain lost learning and to focus on reading, writing and numeracy in the primary with the Dimensions topic approach underpinning the foundation subjects. In the secondary, students will study English / Maths / Science / History / Geography / RE / Spanish / PSHE and PE. We are still looking at how to integrate the option subjects for students in KS4, but initially, our priority will be on the listed subjects.

Here are some key points of which you must be aware:

1. You must ensure that if anyone in your household has COVID-19 symptoms, your child does NOT attend school. Any child or staff member who develops symptoms in the school day will be sent home immediately. You must follow the government guidance 'Stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection'. If anyone in your household, or your child, tests positive for COVID-19 you MUST inform your school.
Please find attached to this letter a PDF Diagram from Brigantia Learning Trust that gives advice to persons displaying Covid-19 Symptoms
2. Your child will be expected to follow strict behaviour rules relating to physical contact with other students and keeping their hands clean. Students will be expected to or be taken to wash their hands regularly and use hand sanitiser. The academy behaviour policy has been revised in light of the Covid-19 Pandemic and this can be found on our website here <https://www.hindehouse.net/about/policies/>
3. Students and staff will not be wearing face coverings in school. The government advice is quite clear that this is not necessary. If face coverings are used on public transport to get to school, it should be removed on arrival.
4. If your child has Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND) the SEN team will be in touch to explain the provision from September.
5. For our secondary school students, it will be more important than ever that your child has their own equipment in school to ensure that this does not need to be shared.
6. The government has advised walking or cycling to school wherever possible to reduce the use of public transport and parents will be asked to remain off the school site.
7. **Attendance at school. Attendance in September will again become mandatory and it is vital that all our students return to full time education.**

The government guidance says: 'Missing out on more time in the classroom risks students falling further behind. Those with higher overall absence tend to achieve less well in both primary and secondary school. This means from that point, the usual rules on school attendance will apply, including:

- *parents' duty to ensure that their child attends regularly at school where the child is a registered pupil at school and they are of compulsory school age;*
- *schools' responsibilities to record attendance and follow up absence*
- *the availability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices in line with local authorities' codes of conduct.'*

If your child remains under the care of a specialist health care professional you should discuss their care before returning to school in September, and talk to your school about the situation.

Where children are not able to attend school as parents are following clinical and/or public health advice, they will not be penalised.

8. School kitchens will re-open in September and lunches will be available again. Students eligible for free school meals will return to having their lunch at school and will no longer receive lunch vouchers. **Please be aware that the cash points in school will be unavailable and as such parents must use online 'Parent Pay' to credit their child's account if they wish to purchase food in school. More information will follow before your child returns in September.**
9. **Uniform is compulsory.** Students will be expected to wear school uniform again from September. Information and link to order online here:
https://www.hindehouse.net/parent-carers/uniform_and_dress_code/

We understand that some of you and your children will be anxious about returning in September after some months out of school. Please be reassured that we are taking exceptional measures to make our school as safe as can be. We will be providing additional emotional and wellbeing support for any students that need it and will also be providing additional opportunities to support learning where this is required. Although it feels like this situation has lasted forever, in fact students will have lost, by the end of term, at worst, only 70 school days of learning; very many of them have worked hard using online resources or work books provided by our hardworking and dedicated teachers.

Next week you will receive a personalised letter that will give you: the social bubble information, the learning base, the member of staff in your child's bubble and the timings of the school day, including start and finish times. Please be aware that in the secondary school staggered starts mean different year groups have a different school day:

- Y7 8.30-3.00
- Y8 9.00-3.30
- Y9 9.30-4.00
- Y10 10.00-4.30
- Y11 10.30-5.00

This will allow each year group discreet starts/finishes/bases and breaks/lunchtimes that enable them to be kept separate.

We are determined that our students will absolutely not be 'a lost generation' and we're adapting our curriculum to make sure that they get the learning and knowledge that they need to achieve success in the future.

Your children deserve a great, and safe, education – we will not let them down.

See you in September



V J Simcock
Executive Principal



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This diagram shows how to advise individuals (children and adults) and their households if they become unwell OR if they are sent home because they have been in contact with someone who is ill. It is based on the [guidance](#) for the full opening of schools set out in section one, Public Health advice to minimise risks. This is not a substitute for reading the full guidance.

A person with symptoms

If a person becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), then *they* **must** be sent home, arrange a test and self-isolate for at least 7 days

If a person becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), then *other members of their household* **must** self-isolate for 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms

If a person with symptoms **tests negative** and if they feel well and no longer have symptoms similar to coronavirus (COVID-19), then *they* can stop self-isolating. *Other members of their household* can stop self-isolating

If a person with symptoms **tests positive**, then *other members of their household* **must** self-isolate for 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms.



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A person who is sent home because they have been in contact with someone who has tested positive

The health protection team will provide definitive advice on who must be sent home. A person who has been in contact with someone who has tested positive will be sent home and asked to self-isolate for 14 days.

If a person has been in contact with someone who has tested **positive** and is sent home to self-isolate for 14 days, then *their household* does not need to self-isolate, unless the person who is self-isolating subsequently develops symptoms.

If a person who has been in contact with someone who has tested **positive** subsequently *develops symptoms themselves* within their 14-day isolation period, then they **must** stay at home and get a test.

If the test delivers a **negative result**, then they **must** remain in isolation for the remainder of the 14-day isolation period as they could still get symptoms after being tested

If the test delivers a **positive result**, then they **must** inform their school immediately and **must** isolate for at least 7 days from the onset of their symptoms.

If the test delivers a **negative result**, then *their household* can stop self-isolating if they do not have symptoms

If the test delivers a **positive result**, then *their household* **must** self-isolate for at least 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms.



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