



Hall Green School An Academy

28 September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Update on Covid at Hall Green School

Just like any school in Birmingham, we have had positive cases of Covid-19 in our community. When this happens, we have followed the guidelines of Public Health England carefully to prevent the virus spreading in school. This has meant we have had to send some pupils home to self-isolate and continue their studies from home. Thank you to all parents for your support.

At school we have put in place careful control measures to reduce the spread of the virus and keep the numbers of pupils we might have to send home if there is an infection in school to a minimum.

We ask pupils to do the following:

- Stay at home if they or any in the family feel unwell.
- Keep a social distance of 2 metres from others as much as possible.
- Where they can't keep 2 metres from others, to wear a mask. Masks must be worn in school corridors.
- Walk or cycle to school on their own, or in a small group of friends.
- In school, at break or lunch, try to mix with only a small group of friends – a maximum of 6 in a group, like the national guidelines.
- Wash their hands and sanitise their hands regularly.
- Keep a Contact Tracking journal in their school planner so we know who they might have had close contact with during the day.

Please reinforce these messages with your child, and make sure that the whole family at home follow the [national and local guidance](#) as well.

If we ask your child to self-isolate, please make sure they do stay in at home for the time required, and continue with their studies online. [Here is the guidance](#) on self-isolating from the government and I have included a letter sent from the NHS reminding us when we can book a test for anyone in our families.

Emergency Contact Details

It is vital that we have your up to date contact details. We may have to send children home at short notice in an emergency. When we do this, we send a text to the first person named in your child's records as the carer or parent. Please make sure we have an up-to-date email and mobile phone number for your child's contact details.

Remote learning

If pupils are sent home, they are expected to continue to work on the lessons set for them on [Class Charts](#). If a whole year group or class is sent home, then there will be live lessons on [Microsoft Teams](#). Both of these

apps are free to download. Pupils can access the lessons from a Smartphone, a tablet, a laptop or desktop computer as long as the house has wifi.

Please get in touch with school if you need any support getting online. We have a limited number of laptops that we can share with parents.

Cold weather

One of the measures we are taking to reduce the spread of Covid-19 is ensuring that classrooms are well ventilated, with open windows. As the weather gets colder we will be putting on the heating as well, but it is likely that children may feel the cold a little more in the classroom than in other years. I recommend that you provide your children with a warm coat that they can wear in class if the weather gets very cold. We are working with Birmingham City Council to support us in finding a solution to the problem providing an adequate level of ventilation while maintaining a warm classroom.

Governors

We have vacancies for two parent governors at school. The Governors would like to invite parents who are interested in acting as a governor to get in touch with the school to find out what it might involve. In particular, the Governors are looking for a parent with an educational, financial, legal or professional background to supplement our existing team. Please get in touch to find out more about the role. All expressions of interest are welcome.

Parents' Evenings

This year we will have to operate parents' evenings differently from previous years. We are planning to hold our parents' evenings remotely, either by phone or by video conferencing. We will provide more details of the arrangements for parents' evenings nearer the date of the first one, which is for the parents of Year 11 pupils on Tuesday 11 November 2020.

Half Day Friday 2 October

The governors have agreed to have a half day this Friday 2 October to provide additional time for teachers to prepare the in-school and online lesson materials.

Year 9 pupils will be released from school at 12.15 pm. Year 7 and 8 pupils will be released at 12.25 pm. Year 10 and 11 pupils will be released at 1.15 pm.

Thank you for your continuing support at this difficult time.

Yours faithfully



Mr D Adams
Headteacher

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