

7 September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome to a new academic year at Hall Green School! It has been a pleasure to welcome pupils back to site over the last few days. From Wednesday 8 September, all pupils should be back on site for their lessons. It is essential that if this is not the case, you contact the school office to inform us of your child's reason for absence.

Drop off/pick up

As many of you will know, our school entrance is not conducive to a large number of cars dropping children off to school and on many occasions, the road becomes blocked and at times, is dangerous for our pupils. I am working hard with our local councillor, the council, and our neighbours to try to find a solution that works for everyone but in the meantime, urge families to consider how you can help by working with us to reduce the volume of traffic.

As an inclusive school, we have a number of pupils with disabilities/needs that require being dropped off close to school. For the vast majority of pupils, this is not essential. Now that pupils are settling back into school, may I please urge parents/carers to consider the best way for your children to get to school. If they do require to be dropped off by car, please can I ask families to plan a suitable drop off/pick up point, perhaps a 5 minute walk away from school to avoid driving along Southam Road. Not only will this make the road safer for pupils, it will also avoid you getting caught in traffic on this particular road for up to 15 minutes! For those pupils who do have disabilities/needs that require drop off/pick up close to the school, please do ensure your engines are turned off whilst parked.

Covid testing

As you will be aware, pupils will receive two tests as they return to school (one prior to starting and the second, 3-5 days later). After this, pupils should ensure they are completing lateral flow tests at home twice a week. We have had just 4 positive cases during this initial testing phase to date and are pleased with the uptake and positive attitude of pupils towards this important safety element of the return to school.

A few brief reminders of the current guidelines:

- If your child has covid symptoms, they must remain at home and have a PCR test (https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test)
- If anyone in your household tests positive, the rest of the household should take a PCR test. If under 18, or double vaccinated, there is no longer a requirement for the rest of the household to isolate whilst waiting for their PCR test results.
- If a pupil tests positive and they have siblings in school, the school may ask the siblings to complete daily lateral flow tests in school (where permission for testing has been granted).

Teaching & Learning

All pupils will receive a 'return to school' induction in their first few days with a focus on ensuring all pupils can achieve their full potential whilst at Hall Green School. Our dedicated, skilled staff work

tirelessly to ensure we provide the highest quality learning opportunities both inside and out of the classroom, tailored to each child's needs. We will regularly provide you with updates on our expectations so as to help you support your child's learning. We have already begun our careers programme for current Year 11s with careers interviews and an upcoming visit to university. Year 11s will sit mock exams in five weeks; the first step this year in ensuring they are confident and fully prepared for their final exams.

End of Year trips

We are still hoping to run the postponed end of year trips for Years 8-11 at the end of this month. We will be in touch as soon as possible to confirm the details.

Open Evening – Thursday 23 September 6.00 – 8.00 pm TBC

Whilst we hope to run this on site, in-person, we are awaiting further guidance. Please do keep an eye on our website for further details.

I look forward to continuing to meet with parents/carers throughout this term as we return to welcoming people back to site.

Yours faithfully

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Miss K Slater

Headteacher

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