



Oakfield Lodge School
Warmingham Road
Crewe
Cheshire
CW1 4PP
Tel: 01270 685626

Dear Parent/Carer

Firstly can I wish you a very Happy New Year, I hope that you have had a safe and restful Christmas Holiday.

As you will be aware there have been some significant developments over the last two weeks that will have an impact on us as a school and wider community over the coming weeks and months. We are all now aware of the new strain of Covid 19 that appears to be more easily transmitted and now find ourselves in Tier 4 with increasing cases very close to home.

This is a very worrying and anxious time for everyone and we must work together to ensure that all staff, students and families are safe as they can be. As a result of the fast moving changes it has been necessary for us to revisit our school based plans and to amend our school day and curriculum to reflect the ever changing situation.

From the 5th of January 2021, all students will be taught in form rooms for all subject areas (with the exception of practical DT), whilst we know that some students will find this difficult it will significantly reduce the contact between small groups of students and enable us to track and trace more effectively if we are notified of a positive case of Covid 19 in school.

Students will be supported by a consistent member of support staff, and specialist teachers will come to them to deliver their lessons. It is essential that you talk to your child about the need to remain only with the students from their form and not mix inside the school building with any other groups of students.

Most lesson delivery will be supported by accessing Google Classrooms (our main remote teaching portal) as such students who have been provided with a DFE laptop will be expected to bring their laptop with them into school on a daily basis for use in all subject areas. Student who were not allocated a DFE laptop will be provided with a school laptop for use during the school day.

It is essential that students have their laptop available to them every day and we thank you for supporting us with this.

If students wish to bring their own headphones to school for use in lessons we are happy for them to do so, unfortunately we will not be able to provide these from school.

As the weather has got colder over recent weeks we would ask that parents ensure that their child has warm out clothing on every day as classroom windows and door need to remain open for ventilation.

Students will need to continue to wear face coverings (or visors where exempt) in communal areas. If your child requires support from an adult in the classroom, that will require them to be within the 2 meter zone, staff and students will be asked to wear a face covering for the duration of the support input. This should only be for a short time and is intended to further reduce any risk of transmission.

If your child is eligible for local authority transport please ensure that they are wearing a face covering when traveling as they will be traveling with students from different forms.

If you have any concerns about your child returning to school in these uncertain times please can you make contact with Mss Payne our attendance officer to discuss your worries. If you feel your child has an underlying health condition that would prevent them from attending school please let us know as a matter of urgency.

As you will be aware the Government have asked schools to conduct lateral flow testing for students from this term. Currently the school are looking at training for staff and ensuring that we have all of the resources needed to do this in a planned and safe way. At this stage will be asking parents to give consent only for this, for our records, I will communicate with you further at the point where we are looking to commence testing.

We know that the pandemic has had a huge impact on our young people and we are working really hard to ensure that we continue to offer a safe and happy environment in which they can continue to learn.

Thank you for your support I will update you if there are any further changes.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ms G Bailey', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ms G Bailey
Headteacher