

Dear Parents & Carers of Year 11 students starting September 2020,

## September 2020 return to school at Sewell Park Academy

Following the Government's announcement that schools will reopen in September for all students, and having worked as a school and with Boudica Schools Trust on the published Department of Education guidance for reopening, I wanted to write to you with our plans for September 2020. In any planning for reopening, the safety of students, staff and the wider community has always been at the forefront.

### Returning to Sewell Park Academy

At Sewell Park Academy, we are fortunate with the resources site for our school. As such, when students return to school in September, we are able to keep each year group in 'bubbles' around the school site. This reduces the risk of mixing between year groups and therefore the risk of transmission of the Coronavirus.

Due to this, our school day will remain the same for all year groups, starting at 8.40 am and ending at 3.05 pm (with the exception of Period 6 for Years 10 and 11) Monday enrichment, which finishes at 4.05 pm is currently postponed due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

Students in each year group will enter through their designated entry gate and wait in their allocated 'zone' outside area. From here they will be taken to their allocated school classrooms, where they will be taught in their 'bubble'. For practical subjects, students will be collected by the classroom teachers and taken to the practical rooms, which, alongside any equipment used, will be cleaned between year groups.

Our students will remain allocated to houses as they have always been, however, due to the year group bubbles, our form groups, and oversight by the leadership team and pastoral staff, will be in year groups from September.

### Year 11 specific details

As our new Year 7 students have missed out on their transition to high school, we are planning to support them through having only Year 7 in school for the first few days in September, before other year groups return.

Year 11 will return to Sewell Park Academy on **Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September** and should enter through the Year 11 entrance which will be through north Constitution Hill gate (opposite the Sewell Barn). The educational provision for Year 11 which is missed will be covered through Period 6 sessions over the course of the academic year. The Thursday and Friday will be focused on coursework sessions students have missed during the school closure, alongside English, Maths and Science.

The Year 11 'zone' will be in the Science block, with the lunch and break area in the region by the Sewell Barn. The Year 11s pastoral responsibility will be overseen by Mrs Barwick, Assistant Headteacher.

Period 6 will begin for Year 11 from Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September, where they will complete three sessions per week, on a Monday, Wednesday and Thursday until 4.05 pm.

## Break and Lunchtimes

At break and lunchtime students will be in their allocated 'zone' for their year group. They will be taken to this area by the teacher at the end of the previous lesson. Each year group will have allocated 'gender neutral' toilets which will minimise the risk of mixing between year groups.

Following the first week of term, those students who receive Free School Meals, or wish to purchase lunch, will be asked to pre-order in advance at the end of the previous week. Meals will then be delivered to the allocated year group zone. We are also hopeful that a new system, which will allow parents to electronically add a balance to a student lunch account will be in operation for September. During the first week there will unfortunately be no facility to purchase snacks at break time, but we are hopeful this will begin imminently.

## Additional changes at Sewell Park Academy, including visitor procedures

In order for the safety of all students, staff and the community, alongside others, the following measures and changes will be in place from September:

- Students and staff will be required to regularly wash or sanitise their hands throughout the day and both before and after lunch (hand sanitiser stations will be in place around the site)
- Between year groups using practical classrooms - equipment and desks will be cleaned
- Year groups will have different changing facilities for PE lessons, which will be cleaned prior to another year group entering
- Students will not be able to share equipment or resources with other students
- All classrooms will have front facing rows. Where this is not possible (for example in Food technology), protective screens will separate each workstation
- Class room doors and windows will be open for increased ventilation
- Additional cleaning will take place where necessary
- Parents are requested to **not park within 100 m** of the Sewell Park Academy site, so that students can walk to their entrances without a large congregation of people (this is particularly important on the St Clements Hill side). Where a parent feels they need to walk with their son or daughter, we would ask they park away from the school and walk the final part of the journey
- Where possible, we would ask parents to conduct meetings with staff over the phone, video call, or we will happily arrange a home visit. If a meeting in school is essential, we will require this to be pre-arranged, unless in the case of an emergency
- The risk assessment will be displayed on the school website in September
- Lockers will not be available to students in September due to the location currently of the year group zones, however this may change in the future

## Behaviour expectations & Social routines

In September we will be reteaching students our social routines and curriculum, regarding demonstrating calm, engaged and respectful behaviour at all times. Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, there will be some behaviours which previously were acceptable, which will no longer be allowed (for example, lending resources to friends). From the start of term, we will be teaching these behaviours to students and will communicate these clearly with yourselves.

As a school, we will be insisting on the highest standards of behaviour at all times, and any deliberate infringement of rules regarding safety and social distancing will be dealt with severely, for the safety of all students and staff. As a school, we thank you in advance for your support in this area. Other rules remain the same, such as mobile phones not being allowed out between the start and end of the school day.

On returning in September, we will be expecting all students to be in full uniform (please see the previous information regarding Stevenson's provision). The current guidance for schools from the Department of Education suggests that it does not require washing more regularly.

### **Coronavirus symptoms & Test and Trace**

If a student or household member has symptoms of Coronavirus, they must remain at home and isolate pending the result of a Coronavirus test, and would ask that you make us aware as soon as there is a result (positive or negative). In the event of a positive test, we will follow instructions from Public Health England. In September, we will be sending out full information regarding attendance and procedures to follow. However, there is a requirement that all members of the school community comply with the Governments 'Test and Trace' programme if requested.

In the event of a student, or year group 'bubble' requiring self-isolation, or a full or partial closure of the school, we will have a full blended learning programme in place to support the students. The full details of this will be sent to you in September.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members of the school community for their support over the last seventeen weeks. The work by staff in supporting our students, the support by parents for the home learning provision, and the work we have received from students, demonstrates the continued high expectations of all at Sewell Park Academy. We all appreciate that this has been an extremely difficult time for everyone, with living and working in a very different way to before. We look forward to welcoming all students back to Sewell Park, safely, and get back to teaching and supporting them for their futures. I hope you are all able to have a summer break you can enjoy safely.

Best wishes



David Day  
Headteacher