



Ravenshall

all different | all equal | all important

23 October 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Well, this has been a start to a new school year like no other, hasn't it?!

I hope that the start of this new term has gone as smoothly for both parents and pupils as it has for us in school. I would like to thank all the parents who have supported us in our changes in routines and the adapted transition plans so that we could bring all children and young people into school safely and with the individual support they needed.

This has been especially effective as we opened our brand new Ravenshall Post 16 site (Preparation for Adulthood – PfA) in the former Children Centre in Brewery Lane. This looks amazing and our students have enjoyed their own individually designed spaces which meets their needs perfectly!

It is also so good to see the classrooms and playgrounds full of our pupils and that they all seem very happy to be back. Importantly too, they have adapted fantastically quickly to the new Covid practices. These have included walking on the left in corridors, staying in allocated playground areas and entering and leaving school through specific doors.

With a sharp focus on safety permeating throughout the school, we were pleased to be able to put this to good practice during a randomly selected Health and Safety Executive (HSE) Covid 19 School Inspection, which was conducted this Tuesday.

The Inspector checked all aspects of our Covid Safety Plan, the school's practices and protocols, Risk Assessments, our channels of communication and specific measures - like signage and safety reminders - regarding the pandemic and its impact in schools.

I am very pleased to report that the school met (and exceeded) all statutory measures in keeping children, staff, parents, and others involved in Ravenshall School, as safe as they possibly can in the current climate.

With this in mind, may I remind you again of some of our very important messages which we must insist upon in keeping Ravenshall School as safe as possible. These are:

What to do if a member of your household or support bubble, including your child, develops symptoms of COVID 19

Please be reminded that should a member of your household or support bubble display symptoms of Covid19, then all the members of the household need to isolate and a test must be taken by the person displaying symptoms. All members of the family and support bubble must isolate until the test result is confirmed. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for testing and this can be arranged via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

If the test is negative, children can return to school and members of the family can stop isolating. ***Please do not attend the school, under any circumstances if you or your family are displaying symptoms.***

What to do if a member of your household or support bubble, including your child, tests positive for COVID 19

If the test is positive, the person who has had the test must self-isolate for 10 days from the date their symptoms appeared. All other household members who remain well, must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble'. Further information is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-homeguidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

The 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill. Household members should not go to work, school or public areas and exercise should be taken within the home. If you require help with buying groceries, other shopping or picking up medication, or walking a dog, you should ask friends or family. Alternatively, you can order your shopping online and medication by phone or online. Household members staying at home for 14 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community. If you are able, move any vulnerable individuals (such as the elderly and those with underlying health conditions) out of your home, to stay with friends or family for the duration of the home isolation period.

Symptoms

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

How to stop COVID-19 spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID19:

- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wash your hands as soon as you get home
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards

Thank you for your continued support of our school. The fact that our pupils have returned to school and begun to re-engage in their learning so positively is due to our working together and building good home/school relationships. Together, we have a lot to be very proud of!

I wish you all a safe and enjoyable Half Term holiday.

Best wishes

Mrs J Tate

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