

22 May 2020

Pathfinder Multi Academy Trust
Archbishop Holgate's School
Hull Road, York YO10 5ZA
T: 01904 411341
E: info@pmat.academy
W: www.pathfindermat.co.uk

Dear Parents and Carers

Reopening of schools update

Pathfinder Multi Academy Trust is an exempt charity registered in England and Wales.
Company Number: 07559610.
Registered Office: Archbishop Holgate's School, Hull Road, York YO10 5ZA

We are continuing to work closely across all of our schools on plans to reopen to some pupils at the beginning of June.

As you know, the government's ambition is for pupils in nursery, reception, year 1 and year 6 to return to school on 1 June. Our schools are currently working towards opening, on a part time basis, from 2 June but only if we are satisfied the risks have been minimised according to government guidance.

Thank you to the parents and carers who completed our survey earlier this week. Your responses form an important part of our risk assessments and planning. Headteachers will be sending out more details next week on the arrangements for those children who are likely to be returning to school. These will include which days your child will attend, drop off and pick up times, expectations of parents and pupils and useful advice to help keep your family safe.

When children return, they will be kept in small groups (bubbles) while in school. The number of children within each bubble will be determined by the space available in each classroom but be no more than 15 children and 2 members of staff. Bubbles will be kept separate at all times, including break and lunch times and social distancing within bubbles will be observed.

All of our schools will continue to have provision in place for vulnerable children and the children of key workers to attend school every day, as they do now.

There continues to be much debate, both locally and nationally, on the proposed timescale for schools returning. We are closely monitoring and reviewing government guidance and should there be any significant change we will inform parents and carers as soon as possible. In the meantime, we are continuing to make all of the necessary preparations to safely accommodate more children in our schools. This work is progressing at considerable pace and includes some of the following:

- Comprehensive review of all risk assessments in each school
- Updated cleaning regime in schools, to include regular daily cleaning of high use areas and a thorough deep clean every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday
- Additional hand washing stations installed in all schools to facilitate more frequent hand washing throughout the day
- Changes to the layout of classrooms to ensure social distancing can be implemented
- Hand sanitisers, disposable tissues, lidded waste bins and cleaning solutions in every classroom
- New posters throughout school promoting good hygiene practices and social distancing
- Removal of hard to clean items from classrooms
- Classrooms to be kept well ventilated throughout the day
- PPE available for staff, if required, when dealing with first aid or intimate care situations
- All staff have been fully informed on the protective measures in education and childcare settings as outlined in the government's guidance
- No visitors or contractors will be allowed on site unless absolutely necessary or in the case of an emergency.

Our Partner Schools

We would like to reassure those parents and carers of children who will not be returning to school that we will continue to provide online resources to facilitate home learning. A key part of our planning for the reopening of schools is focussed on ensuring we can provide the same high level of education and pastoral support for children at home.

I am extremely proud and grateful for the tireless efforts of staff and the ongoing support from parents and carers during these unprecedented times.

I hope that all families have a safe and restful half term.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Daly', written in a cursive style.

Andrew Daly
Executive Headteacher