



27 August 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

We are really looking forward to welcoming your children back on site fully next week and it's been great to see them this week. There has been a huge amount of work undertaken to get our site as safe as possible and these past days have given time to refine our measures and iron out any issues that have arisen.

Below I have highlighted some key measures that have been put in place:

- 12 additional external sinks to add capacity for hand-hygiene
- Hand sanitation stations in all rooms and entrances to the site  
(We would encourage all students to carry their own sanitiser as well)
- Rooms have where possible been reconfigured into rows and tables spaced
- Staggered break and lunchtime access to catering - see [HERE](#)
- Students will have access to the Library on a rota basis - see [HERE](#)
- One way system enhanced with additional signage
- Holding bays have been created for all rooms outside the two sites, to minimise any time waiting in corridors - students will be collected by their teaching staff and escorted into lessons in a safe and orderly fashion
- Additional cleaning staff have been appointed to enhance cleaning regimes
- All staff have been briefed on the safety procedures and our movement plan

I know there has been a lot of information to take on board as we prepare for re-opening and we are trying to be as proactive as possible in addressing issues before they arise. This is an exceptionally challenging time for all schools and I would ask that parents / carers support BGLC by discussing the information that has been communicated. We are trying to create an environment that is as safe and normal as possible but some things are and need to be different until the situation with regard to the pandemic improves.

### Key Points:

- On days when students have PE or GCSE Dance they should arrive in school in their official BGLC PE kit. All students should have with them a uniform to change into, in the event of wet weather. All students will be given the opportunity to change, especially when these lessons take place early in the day.
- Students should bring all the equipment they will need for lessons as per the previous letter and where possible including a glue stick and scissors. We will be creating year group sets of some equipment in most subject areas but to reduce sharing this would be a huge support to the school.
- Students will continue to have Food practicals but these lessons have had to be put on a rotation to ensure that all students have the opportunity to cook. For Food practical sessions in ADT, students will need to bring in their own apron in order to cook that week as well as a suitable container and bag to take their food home. Students will be told prior to the lesson when they will

be having a practical lesson so they can obtain their ingredients as well as bring in aprons from home.

- A number of parents have raised concerns about the amount of equipment that students will need to bring in the absence of lockers. I fully accept that this isn't an ideal situation but accessing lockers would significantly compromise the "bubbles and zones" we have created to keep students safe. In time we hope we can ease back to using lockers but for now we simply can't safely use them.
- We will be issuing all students with coloured lanyards that will match the zoned areas they will be able to access and should be in during their free time. It is vital that students use these every day and are worn as they should be.
- Formal written feedback will still be given but this will sometimes take longer as staff will need to leave any collected materials 72 hours before marking. Where appropriate and possible we will make greater use of high quality questioning, self assessment, quizzing and digital assessments.
- In the event of a second wave or significant staff shortages we are in the process of modelling what our partial closure plans would be. When this has been completed I will communicate this with you at the earliest opportunity.
- As with many schools wet weather poses a real challenge during break and lunch times. Students will be encouraged to be outside as much as possible, so a suitable outdoor/ waterproof coat will be essential in the coming term. We do have a wet weather plan in place in the event of severe weather.
- We will be adding a staggered end to the day so that we can ensure a safe exit from the site. The Brookvale site will end at 3pm and the Groby site at 3.10pm. Students will be dismissed where possible through external doors to minimise any time in corridors.

The guidance around face coverings changed very late in the day and we have been keen to update parents as soon as we could. Our approach is outlined clearly [here](#).

I also believe that there is significant ambiguity around the guidance for schools with regard to Covid-19 and that for the wider public and many workplaces. I have highlighted some of the key points from the DFE guidance [here](#).

When students return it is very likely we will need to provide further updates as our approaches evolve to meet the needs of our learners and we establish our new routines. I will try to ensure that all parents / carers are fully briefed on all key points moving forward.

Yours sincerely



Will Teece  
Headteacher