

Edward Peake C of E (VC) Middle School

Headteacher: Miss Z J Linington

Potton Road, Biggleswade, Bedfordshire. SG18 0EJ

Tel: 01767 314562

E-mail: info@edwardpeake.beds.sch.uk

Web: <http://www.edwardpeake.beds.sch.uk>



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Dear Parent/Carer

The Prime Minister has announced that the country will move to Step 3 of the roadmap on Monday, 17 May 2021. There are a number of implications for the school that I would like to explain in this letter.

Face coverings

Due to a high rate of infection in Bedford, Public Health England have advised that from Monday, 17 May 2021, face coverings will still be required for KS3 pupils in classrooms and communal areas (such as corridors). Face coverings will also be required by staff in classrooms. Staff and visitors are still expected to wear a face covering in indoor communal areas such as corridors where social distancing is not possible. The guidance on wearing face coverings could change depending on the local prevalence of the Covid 19 virus and any new variants. We will keep you updated on any further changes to the guidance.

Educational visits and trips

Educational day trips, in-line with COVID-secure guidelines, were able to resume on 12 April and domestic residential visits will be able to resume from 17 May 2021. International visits are not being advised until at least September 2021. We are taking a cautious approach to trips and visits as many educational venues have yet to reopen. Priority is being given to those trips and visits that are a fundamental part of the school curriculum.

Other protective measures

The other protective measures that have been in operation since our return in March 2021 will remain in place. While we welcome the positive news about the low number of current cases, we are all vigilant about the continued risks associated with COVID-19. In particular, I would like to remind all pupils about the importance of maintaining social distancing when possible and regularly washing or sanitising hands. KS3 pupils should continue to take lateral flow tests twice a week at home.

Yours sincerely

Miss Z J Linington
Headteacher

