



Our Ref: HeadteacherSA: parental ltrs/POS/JOD
Date: 23rd October 2020

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Ruskin Community High School

Dear Parent/Carer,

Since students returned in September, we have been open for thirty-eight days. The way that students have responded to the new rules, processes and procedures has been excellent.

I would like to thank you for your support in this, and the way most students have adapted to these conditions should not be underestimated.

Before partial closure in March, I would never have imagined we would have staggered starts, staggered ends of the day, staggered lunch and breaks, mask wearing, significant timetable changes, 'bubbles' of students, hand washing stations, sanitiser points outside every room and teachers moving from class to class. All of these things have meant adaptations in the way students attend and participate in school life in and out of lesson time.

With so many unknowns at the moment, all of these changes are set until we are directed to change and go back to the way we were before. I can say though, there are many new procedures that we will certainly look to keep whenever these changes occur.

Ultimately, we are operating in a manner that is different for all of us and as we move forward through the terms I can only ask that we continue to work together.

If at any point, we fall short of any expectations, or if something is not quite right, or we haven't responded as quickly as we normally would, please contact us and work alongside us to find a resolution to the issue. We can work through the challenges that Covid-19 brings together and support students in their learning.

Thank you all for all of your support to ensure that we have stayed open this half-term for the vast majority of students. To date we have had three confirmed Covid-19 cases (one case in Year 8 and another two in Year 11). Also, a number of students have had to self-isolate along with some staff. Unfortunately, the likelihood is that we may have to deal with more cases as we move through the winter period and into the new year.

Next half-term the following points will be helpful in keeping as many students as possible in school:

1. Keeping children and staff away from school if they are displaying symptoms.
 - A new continuous cough
 - High temperature
 - Loss of/change in normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

Testing should be arranged for the person who has developed any of these symptoms.

2. Parents/Carers to inform us immediately if you or your child has a positive test result.

If this is in the evening or weekend you can contact us on the following numbers via call or text, or email:



Mr Postlethwaite: 07775 862626
Miss Szymura: 07712 725096
Email: parent-carer@ruskin.cheshire.sch.uk (before 6.00pm)

3. Staying at home if you have been asked to self-isolate.
This will help us to contain the spread of Covid-19.

Each case of Covid-19 brings different challenges for us to deal with in school. Each time it occurs we liaise with the Local Authority following guidance given to us by DfE and advice from the Local Health Protection Team or Public Health England.

In the event of a 'bubble' or year group isolating at home, we will strive to deliver lessons via TEAMS, post work on ClassCharts or send paper packs to those that need these.

Live lessons on TEAMS may not be possible when some children are at home and other are in school (depending on numbers). We don't have the capacity on our staff to deliver both at the same time in the classroom and via TEAMS. Initial feedback from students has been very positive and we will continue to develop our provision.

We look forward to another half-term after the break and students should return to school on **Tuesday 3rd November** (week A1 of the timetable). Monday 2nd November is a staff Inset Day.

Best wishes.

Yours sincerely



D Postlethwaite
Headteacher

Enc: Local Authority half-term letter to parent/carers