

11th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: End of the first week

At the end of our first week back at school we wanted to say thank you for your support and patience as we all get used to the new routines and expectations. It has been a really enjoyable week with our brand new year 7s, who have really impressed us with their positive attitudes to learning. It has been fantastic to welcome all of our students back and get back to the important business of enjoying learning.

Here a just a few reminders to help with a smooth start to next week:

- All children need face coverings with them every day (unless exempt for medical reasons).
- Avoid travel by car or public transport wherever possible; walking or cycling are by far the healthiest options.
- If driving children to school is necessary, please consider dropping them off close to the school and them walking the rest of the way. This should reduce congestion on school premises.
- If coming on to the school site by car, parents and carers should remain in their vehicles.
- If parents and carers are walking with children to school, they should stop at the school gate and allow children to walk in by themselves. There are plenty of staff on duty.
- Unfortunately, no visitors (including parents and carers) are permitted on the school site without prior arrangement. So, parents and carers should not come into reception to drop off forgotten items - entry is by appointment only.

What to do if your child has symptoms:

It is important that we continue to be vigilant with regard to symptoms of coronavirus, which are the following:

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

If your child has <u>symptoms</u> of COVID-19 however mild, self-isolate for at least 10 days from when the symptoms started and inform the school's attendance office either by telephone on 01234 334528 or email at <u>attendance@biddenham.beds.sch.uk</u>. You should arrange for your child to have a test to see if they have COVID-19 as soon as possible - go to <u>testing</u> to arrange. Do not go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital. If the test is negative then let school know on the contact details above and your child can return to school. If the test is positive then, again please let us know and continue to self-isolate for the remainder of the 10 days. If a person in your household tests positive then all other household members will need to self-isolate for 14 days from the day that the first person became ill. The more contact that you have with school the better able we all are to protect our whole school community.

We would like to finish by thanking you again for working with us to get all of our students back to school safely. Here is a link to the school reopening risk assessment. It has been a really successful first week back and bodes well for the year ahead. As ever, if you have any queries please do get in touch by email at enquiries@biddenham.beds.sch.uk or telephone 01234 342521.and we will respond as soon as possible.

With warmest regards,

Mr D Bailey Principal Ms E Grylls Head of School

Website: biddenham.beds.sch.uk