

2nd October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: School Update

Here we are at the end of our first month back at Biddenham and we thought it would be a good time for a school update. We would like to start by saying how proud we are of the way that the students have adapted to the new routines and regulations. They really have come back with a positive attitude and we thank you for your support in ensuring that students have face masks and equipment and your patience in helping us all to adapt.

One of the key safety measures in minimising the spread of coronavirus is good ventilation. In school this means that we have doors and windows open and that we expect all students to be outside for breaks and lunchtimes, except in very severe weather conditions. With the cold weather approaching it will be important to make sure that students have lots of layers, a school jumper, a good coat with a hood and an umbrella. We have already been feeling the difference in climate this week!

It is been really good to see so many students walking or cycling to school, as this is by far the healthiest travel option. We continue to urge students to travel this way, but also want to make sure that they are safe to do so. Please ensure that students have cycle helmets, lights and bike locks with them if cycling. These can be purchased for quite reasonable prices from Argos, Halfords and Cycle King. We would also like to inform all students, parents and carers that motorised scooters are not permitted at all, as they are far too dangerous.

Students have been informed and briefed that from next week if they are absent from school, they can access their Google Classroom and join their class via Google Meet. This will enable every child to continue their learning from home. We hope that this is supportive of those students who may have to self-isolate and those who are unwell over the winter period. We have been experimenting during this week and have put together a range of resources for remote learning that can be found on the website. As with any new process, and particularly where technology is involved, there are bound to be teething problems. Please do be patient and more importantly pass any feedback through to school on enquiries@biddenham.beds.sch.uk or telephone 01234 342521 and we will respond as soon as possible.

Thank you for your ongoing support and understanding and we will be in touch again very soon.

Warm regards,

Mr D Bailey Principal Ms E Grylls Head of School