

Dear Parent/Carer

### **September 2020 – final summer update**

We are looking forward to welcoming your child back to school for the new academic year.

You should have already received a personalised email giving specific information as to when your child is expected to arrive to the Academy for their first day of term. We are excited to be seeing all our students in person and have worked extremely hard to put measures in place to keep everyone as safe as possible.

Our aim is to do everything we can so we can continue to provide face to face education throughout the 2020/21 academic year.

### **Changes we have made in preparation for welcoming all of our students**

You will already have seen the information we have provided about the changes we have made including videos which show how the academy 'bubbles' will operate. These can be found on our website [here](#) and described in the letter sent July 17 which can be found [here](#).

The information shared includes:

- Zoned areas for year group bubbles
- Reorganisation of classrooms
- Limited movement of students, with the majority of lessons being based in the same room and staff coming to students.
- Staggered start / finish times
- Staggered lunch and breaks
- Additional cleaning of frequently touched surfaces
- Additional handwashing / hand sanitiser stations

### **Face coverings**

We have continued to review the Government's guidance over the summer, including the most recent information on face coverings in schools.

As part of our plans to everyone as safe as possible, we will **require all students and staff to use face coverings in corridors and communal areas**. This expectation is in place across all Delta Trust academies.

Students will be required to wear their face coverings when:

- Entering the academy until they are seated in their classroom
- Moving on the corridors, either escorted to specialist teaching areas or moving to an option subject group
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- To get to the toilets
- Moving to their break/lunch time communal space
- Queuing for food at break/lunch

Once students are seated in their lunch/break space students can remove their face covering.

Staff will wear a full face visor or face covering whilst on the corridors and on duty supporting students in their bubble areas. Students and staff will maintain a social distance of 2 meters when interacting with each other.

### **Face coverings will be provided**

To support you Darton Academy will be providing face coverings for students (and staff). There will be no charge for these face coverings. Where possible, these will be provided to your child by the end of the first week of our new term. Subject to availability, we will provide different colours to different year groups, in order to support our zoned bubble approach and the organisation of break and lunchtimes.

Furthermore, all students will be shown how to correctly wear and remove facemasks using the WHO (World Health Organisation) guidance: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Tv2BVN\\_WTk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Tv2BVN_WTk)

Before your child receives these face coverings from us, please ensure your child comes to school with a face covering. This face covering will need to be appropriate for school. We will keep you informed via School Comms when the ordered facemasks arrive in the academy.

The Government has provided details of exemptions to the requirement to wear face coverings. More information can be found via this link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-in-education>.

Please let us know if your child will not be able to wear a face covering for one of these reasons. ***If you have any medical concerns or wish to share any information with us please contact info@dartonacademy.***

We will keep this policy under review as the autumn term progresses.

### **Travelling to school**

Where possible we encourage students to walk or cycle to school. Our bus provider, Globe have finalised that they are able to run a full service beginning Wednesday 2 September; please find timings and routes attached. ***If your child is travelling by bus please ensure you read this section carefully within July 17 main information letter.***

### **Timetable and lessons**

Your child will receive their timetable on the day they arrive. PE and practical lessons will not begin until week commencing 7 September and therefore equipment or P.E. kit will not be required next week.

### **Resource pack for every student**

Your child will also receive a resource pack and their planner to ensure everyone is well equipped and organised.

**Reduced menus at lunch and break**

As we have staggered breaks as well as lunches we will be offering a reduced menu initially and this has been attached for your reference.

Our aim, as always, is to provide an outstanding education for your child. We understand the anxieties of some of our children who have not been able to attend school for several months and those of their parents. Staff have been working hard to develop an adjusted curriculum, including a wide range of activities, to support your child in making up this lost time in school. We recognise that, like us, you will be eager to see your child benefit from these plans.

I hope you enjoy the Bank Holiday weekend and as always I would like to thank you again for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



Elaine Briggs  
Principal

Please find the below information which you may find useful

Government information for parents and carers:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>

Please continue to follow this advice if your child or a member of your household are showing Covid 19 symptoms.

Do not send your child to school if:

- They are showing Corona virus symptoms <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>
- someone in their household is showing symptoms

Please arrange a test if you or your child develops symptoms. Inform us of the results.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/>

If the test is positive, follow the government guidance for self-isolation and engage with the NHS Test and Trace process. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>

This will help us to minimise any interruption to teaching and learning in school and help us to provide appropriate remote support for any children with symptoms