

Friday 01 October 2021

## Update Letter



Dear Parents & Carers,

I hope this letter finds you all safe and well.

From Monday 4<sup>th</sup> October the arrangements in school are as follows:

### Pupils

Pupils strongly encouraged to wear face coverings when travelling to and from school on transport vehicles with multiple passengers. Face coverings are no longer required when onsite or moving around site – pupils can still wear them if they wish.

Secondary age pupils strongly encouraged to continue testing twice per week.

If your child does test positive, please contact your child's class teacher via email.

If your child tests positive they must self-isolate in line with government guidance. Identified close contacts no longer need to self-isolate but are advised to seek a PCR test. We would strongly encourage your child (if they are able to) to take a PCR if they are identified as a close contact.

### Staff

All staff continue to test twice per week.

Face coverings are no longer required when onsite or moving around site – staff can still wear them if they wish.

### Whole School

Class Bubbles will be maintained as much as possible.

Situations where the whole school or large parts of the school would mix e.g., Whole School Assemblies / Phase Dining in the Hall / Phase play/break times **are still under review and the current arrangements will remain in place**. Staff and Pupil consultation regards the re-introduction of these events will take place in the next few weeks and feedback will be considered prior to any decisions being made.



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Situations where small numbers of staff & pupils mix e.g., Taking multiple pupils from/to their vehicles in the AM & PM / Before and After School Club / End of day bus groups / Swimming / Interventions **are now allowed.**

We will keep all measures under constant review and will keep you up to date if anything changes.

### **Pupil Vaccinations**

We are still awaiting information and guidance about how the vaccination programme will roll out. As soon as I receive any information, I will share this with you.

### **Playground Development**

Mrs Clegg, Mrs Millard and the Site Supervisors Mr Speak and Mr Makinson have been incredibly busy this week as the playground project commenced. The project will see the transformation of the current playground, into a fantastic and engaging space that the pupils will love. We are anticipating the project will take approximately two more weeks, and hopefully the pupils will have the chance to enjoy it before the end of the half-term, if not it will be ready and waiting for them after the October holiday. Once the project is completed, we will share lots of photos with you. We are sure you will love it as much as the pupils.

### **School Values**

We have had a fantastic response to our school values survey so far. Following discussions with members of the school council, they have suggested that we also seek the views of all pupils, not just those in the secondary phase, they would also like to give their siblings and other family members the opportunity to be involved. The link [Whole School Values Survey](#) can be shared and used multiple times, The closure of the form has been extended until Monday 4 October to give you the weekend to enable everyone to be involved. I will share our Top 5 in my Headteacher update letter next week.

### **Fantastic Fundraisers**



A huge congratulations and well done to Mrs Nilma Patel, parent of one of our Year 9 pupils who completed the Great North run and raised funds for the Calvert Trust a charity very close to our hearts here at Astley Park. There is still the option to donate to this very worthwhile cause.



<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/nilma-patel>



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We also have Mrs Kathy Barrant, Class Teacher in Beech Class and Mrs Julie Banks Teaching Assistant in Beech Class taking part in the 10K Race for Life event this weekend raising funds for the charity Cancer Research UK. Please see link to their fundraising page.

<https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/julies-race-for-life-491292>

I'm sure you'll agree they are three fantastic role models, who have set themselves a personal challenge, put in a great deal of time & effort, and in doing so have raised money to help and support others, which is truly inspirational.

Hoping you all remain safe & well.

Keep Safe 🌈

Kieran Welsh  
Headteacher

