



HIGHFIELD LITTLEPORT ACADEMY

An Active Learning Trust School

Executive Headteacher: Simon Bainbridge

Head of School: Yvonne Skillern

3rd July 2020

Dear Parent or Carer

I thought that you may want to hear where we are currently in our planning for September taking into account the latest government advice. This advice is that all pupils are expected to attend school full time from September, with 'year group size' bubbles.

So, taking this into account, our current thinking is that we will return in September in our new class groups, and these will form larger bubble groups of three or four classes in each bubble. Pupils would remain within these classrooms throughout the school day, having lunch in classrooms and using the toilets in their areas. The school may be closed for a half day a week so that we can clean and provide planning time for teachers.

Of course, we are completely dependent on external advice and this advice may change over the coming weeks, and our plans will adapt as necessary. These may be:

- **If the same restrictions are in place as now**
We would continue the offer as it is now, with some changes to the pupils in school, according to the changing needs of the young person and their family.
- **Return to lockdown**
The offer would revert to a very small number of pupils. This would be for critical worker children where they have no option to be at home, and for the most vulnerable children due to significant child protection concerns.

In the above scenarios we would have other safeguards in place, such as entry and exit to the school building at the start and end of day being staggered to avoid contact with people from other bubble groups. Hand gel and handwashing regularly, and so on.

We may have to close one or more bubbles at short notice. This will be where we can't staff the group/s safely due to general staff absence, or if there is a confirmed positive case of COVID.

Many of our students have individual behavioural and sensory needs that put themselves and others at potential risk given the circumstances and potential spreading of the virus. It is especially prevalent in behaviours that involve physical intervention or bodily fluids. A risk assessment around this may mean that limitations are placed upon provision. We will have individual conversations with you where this is the case.

To enable us to plan effectively for the next step, whatever that looks like, and to cover some essential training that has to be done every year in September we are going to close for a training day on **Weds 22nd July**, as well as the **3rd and 4th September**.

*We are also issuing the parental survey so we can gauge the level of take up of a school place if it is available for your son or daughter in September. The link is here <https://rb.gy/Sidm4j>. Please could you complete this by **Friday 10th July**. Thank you.*

Many thanks for your co-operation and understanding through the current time.

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