



3 September 2020

Dear parents, guardians, carers

We appreciate all that you are doing to assist with preparations for a return to school. Further to the government's update last Friday, I would like to clarify some final details before school fully resumes.

- All students are to have their own **mask** – we require this to be a **plain** (no designs or slogans), '**washable**' mask. (Disposable masks are only effective for three hours). Snoods or scarves are not acceptable.
- The government advice is that masks should be stored in a **plastic bag**. The advice also points out that hands need to be washed/ sanitised as soon as the mask has been removed. We therefore recommend that students carry **hand sanitiser** and use it immediately after storing their masks. Removal will happen once they are sat at their desks.
- The school rules have always stressed that **chewing gum** is a banned item from school. Given the heightened risk of transmission, under no circumstances must this be brought into school.
- In line with the guidance we request that if any member of a students' household develops Covid 19 symptoms* or receives a positive Covid 19 test, please **inform the school immediately**.
- Please ensure that students who were given **blue Knowledge Organiser folders**, bring these into school for **collection** on the first day of their return.
- Thank you to all parents who have worked so hard to support students with their learning during the lockdown period. As well as ensuring that all online work on the Google Classroom has been completed, students should **bring in all paper and book based work in the week commencing 14 September**. Further action will be taken where disengagement has been a concern. Where there are gaps in work, catching up now is essential. We look forward to celebrating the many 'Lockdown Heroes/Heroines' too for their excellent work.
- **PE kit will not** be required for students' first timetabled lesson. Please can it be stressed again that 'similar to uniform' is not uniform. Variations will not be allowed.
- Students travelling to school by **bicycle** must use the bicycle shelter specific to their year group. Please remind them of their responsibility to bring a lock and to travel wearing a helmet and high visibility attachments.
- While we have advised students against travelling to school by bus, today we have been sent information about increased local provision. Please see the link: <https://poolehigh.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/September-Bus-Routes.pdf>
- To help navigate the many sources of local and national information about the return to school, please see the page on our website: <https://poolehigh.co.uk/parents/return-to-school>.

Yours sincerely

Mr P Gray
Headteacher

(*The main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are: a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal)