



SEATON VALLEY FEDERATION OF SCHOOLS

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Chair of Governors: Susan Dungworth

Executive Headteacher: John Barnes

17 September 2020

Dear parents / carers

Thank you for your continued support in getting all pupils back into school safely over the past few weeks. As you will know, all of us associated with the Federation are committed to providing the best education possible for your child, while securing the health and safety of our whole school community. Thank you for continuing to follow public health guidelines and encouraging your children to do the same.

You are already aware of the steps we have put in place to ensure the safe return of all pupils to school. We know that you will be keen to understand the impact that we have had in our first weeks of the term, and what our plans are to ensure all pupils catch up with any missed learning, and what will happen if a pupil or pupil is asked to stay at home over the coming months.

That is why I am writing to you today in order to keep you fully informed. This letter will also be published openly on our website and is being sent to our governors.

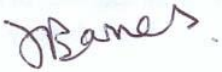
School reopenings	<i>All 3 schools in the Federation are open as normal. There are staggered starts and separated and/or staggered breaks and lunch times, but in lessons all pupils are following their normal timetables and curriculum. They might not be in their normal rooms but they are following their normal timetable.</i>
Attendance	<p><i>Considering all that is going on at this moment in time, our attendance continues to hold up. Obviously there will be variations in our attendance as the term moves on but where possible and when it is safe, please do ensure that your children come into school. To help you we have added to this letter the NHS guideline for Covid 19 symptoms. The following attendance figures are up to Friday 11th September.</i></p> <p><u>ACHS</u></p> <p>Yr 9 - 96.02%</p> <p>Yr 10 - 95.39%</p> <p>Yr 11 - 94.62%</p> <p>Yr 12 - 95.48%</p> <p>Yr13 - 93.84%</p>

	<p><u>SSMS</u></p> <p>Yr5 - 98.62%</p> <p>Yr6 - 95.70%</p> <p>Yr7 - 95.03%</p> <p>Yr8 - 95.97%</p> <p><u>WMS</u></p> <p>Yr5 - 98.0%</p> <p>Yr6 - 93.12%</p> <p>Yr7 - 97.35%</p> <p>Yr8 - 91.23%</p>
<p>Coverage of the curriculum</p>	<p><i>All 3 schools are following their normal curriculums and will continue to do so. Staff are teaching as normal but when an issue is identified they are taking action to help students catch up on what they have missed and help them make the progress that we would want them to. If we feel students may benefit from some either 1:1 work or small group work then we will give them that opportunity. You will of course be informed about this directly. For the students in examination year groups we are presently waiting to hear what is going to happen about exams and as soon as we do we will pass that information onto you and your children.</i></p>
<p>Remote learning March - July 2020</p>	<p><i>As you know as soon as we went into lockdown we ensured that work was sent home either via Google classroom or on paper. As time went on this provision did improve and whilst it was not universally used by all of the pupils in the Federation many pupils across all 3 schools did engage with the work that was set and the average was that nearly 75% of the Federation pupils engaged with the remote learning opportunities.</i></p>
<p>Remote learning in the future</p>	<p><i>Should we have to go into a situation where remote learning is needed again either for whole schools, year groups of individuals, staff will ensure that work is set via Google Classroom. I understand that for some ICT access is an issue, and whilst I can not promise to give people portable ICT equipment, if this is an issue for you then please let us know so that we can try and support you. We did this in the lockdown and we would try and do this again.</i></p>
<p>Mental health and wellbeing</p>	<p><i>As a Federation we are actually aware that our young people may be suffering from or begin to suffer from issues related to their mental health or general well being. If this is the case then please encourage your child to seek help from their year group leader, form tutor or any member of staff they feel comfortable talking to. We will also be keeping an eye on all of our pupils for any indications that they may be struggling or need support. There are also some online resources that both you and your child can access if you so wish, please follow the link to the website https://svf.org.uk/our-federation/support-websites-and-helplines-2</i></p>
<p>Communication</p>	<p><i>We have tried as hard as possible to keep in contact with you and share what is happening. We will continue to do this via the normal school communication channels. We hope that this communication has been useful for you. If you have any concerns then please do let us know.</i></p>

Thank you for your support in these challenging times. Please remember to follow both the school's and public health guidance to keep everyone learning safely. Can I ask that you reinforce with your children the need for social distancing especially between them and the adults in the Federation. We will continue to do this but I appreciate any support you can give us in this area.

I wish you all the best for the rest of the term.

Yours sincerely



John Barnes
Executive Headteacher

IMPORTANT REMINDER: The main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are a high temperature, a new, continuous cough and a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste.

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

To protect others, do not go to places like a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital if you have any of these symptoms. Get a test to check if you have coronavirus and stay at home until you get your result.

COVID-19 Guidance, please follow the link <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-list-of-guidance>

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Schools North East
Partner School

