

No 1 Multi Academy Trust for disadvantaged pupils' outcomes

DFE PERFORMANCE TABLES 2019 AND NO 3 IN 2018

Top 10 National Pupil Progress

DFE PERFORMANCE TABLES 2018 AND 2019



3rd November 2020

Dear Families

Welcome back to a new half term! I hope that you all had some time to rest and recharge.

Over the weekend, the Prime Minister announced a further lockdown, starting on 5th November and lasting until 2nd December. This may have left some of you with questions and I wanted to take this opportunity to update you on the position for schools.

In his announcement, the Prime Minister was clear that all schools will remain open during this period; we remain open for all of our children. The Government also expects that all children will continue to attend school as normal; this is different to the previous lockdown where school was only open to designated groups, such as Key Worker families. We ask that our families continue to send their children to school as normal over the next few weeks.

Throughout this pandemic, the safety of our children, staff, families and community has been of paramount importance and we have always incorporated the Government's guidance and implemented it in our risk assessments and procedures. At present, no new guidance for schools has been released as a result of the recent lockdown announcement. If this changes, we will of course write to you and inform you of the new measures and their implications for us as a school community.

Until then, we will continue to use our designated bubble system for all of our children. This ensures that they do not mix whilst they are in school; they have separate break times and lunch time arrangements, as well as several other procedures which allows us to maintain a clear separation of the two bubbles. Thanks to our clear bubble system, once the children enter their assigned bubble, they are not required to be 2 metres apart. This reflects the understanding that social distancing can be hard for children, particularly our youngest members of the school. As a team, we have put additional measures into place within each bubble that helps to minimise the amount of contact that the children have, including class seating plans, distancing (where possible) and a one-way system alongside stringent hygiene measures.

We have ventilated classrooms allowing us to have a good airflow running throughout each of the classrooms. In addition to windows being constantly open, we are going to be asking teachers to leave external doors open during break/lunch times to refresh the air. This means that heat is not going to be maintained. Understandably, as time passes, this is going to present a different challenge as the weather



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cools even further; there is no solution other than for children to wear additional layers which can be easily added or removed. Please can we ask you to consider this when children are dressing for school each day and they have everything they need to be comfortable throughout their day. With the increased amount of layers, please ensure that all of your child's clothing is clearly named.

We fully appreciate that this can be a worrying time for you as parents and families, and we will endeavour to continue keeping you fully up-to-date with any new guidance or measures as we work to keep our school community safe whilst taking every step possible to minimise risk to all.

We would like to once again thank you for supporting our safety measures by wearing a face covering whilst on the school grounds. We continue to ask that you minimise any face to face contact with the members of staff, and continue to use the class email addresses to pass on any messages or ask any questions. We also ask that you continue to remain 2m apart from other parents when you are collecting or dropping off your children; we know this can slow things down, but your compassion and care for all members of the school family is very much appreciated by all of the staff and children.

Please rest assured that we will notify you of any changes to our arrangements or safety measures promptly. Until then, thank you for continuing to support us being able to get children into and out of school safely.

Yours faithfully

Katie Coombe
Head of Academy