

28th August 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

In preparation for full reopening of all schools, and following the current official guidance the School's Senior Leadership Team, Trust and the Health and Safety advisors have spent considerable time planning for the safe return of all pupils and staff to full-time education in September. Following discussion of our risk assessments and reopening plans, a number of precautionary measures have been implemented on the site and we are following official government guidance supplied to schools.

For our pupils some things will look and feel different when they return in September, however I know that they will be a credit to our school and adapt quickly to these changes and staff will be on hand to support them.

Following the press coverage in relation to the wearing of facemasks at High Schools, I am sure that you will have some questions over what will be required in our primary school.

Although schools have the discretion to require face coverings, the recommendation is that pupils will not wear masks in the Trust's primary schools, as transmission is believed to be lower for younger children and because the wearing of masks is more likely to impact on the well-being of pupils and learning outcomes.

One of the changes that your child will see, is that staff may be wearing face visors in the classroom to support both the safety of staff and allow curriculum to be delivered as effectively as possible. Staff may also be wearing face masks/visors when supervising and moving around the site.

Please rest assured, we will continue to undertake appropriate risk assessments for pupils who may require additional support in relation to safe attendance at school.

We hope that these health and safety measures will ensure that Whiston Willis can continue to operate as normal a service as possible. The health and well-being of our school community is of paramount importance. Schools are an essential part of society and the arrangements we are making are designed to ensure we are in a position to welcome all pupils and staff back to school safely. Should we be in the unfortunate position that local restrictions apply, the Trust will look to adopt official guidance and consider instigating any additional safety measure we feel appropriate which may include the wearing of face masks for pupils when moving around, such as in corridors and communal areas and potential is classrooms also.

We are confident that you as parents and carers, our students and staff will fully understand that these measures are designed to provide the best care, not just for those in school, but also for our families and this initiative will therefore be supported with the same community spirit which typifies the attitude of those in this school. The school will continue to monitor any changes to guidance and review the implementation process in school.

Yours faithfully

Ian Cooper

Principal

Learning for Life

