



EXHALL GRANGE SPECIALIST SCHOOL

Tuesday 2nd March 2021

Dear Parents / Carers

Full opening of Exhall Grange 8th March 2021

I do hope you all are continuing to stay safe and well. I wanted to start by expressing my huge appreciation of all that you have been doing during this third lockdown period. It is my opinion that this has been the most difficult of the three and I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for all you have done to support your children and young people as well as the school as we continue to navigate our way through these difficult times. Your support has been invaluable and I hope we can continue to go from strength to strength.

I cannot tell you how much I am looking forward to most of us being back in school together next week. Exhall is not the same without all of our community in it and once again it seems like an age since the last time that was the case.

I wanted to update you on some things that we are having to put in place to ensure the safety of all of our community as well as following the ever changing Government guidelines. I appreciate the level of anxiety you may have and especially our pupils, so I wanted to let you know some important information which I hope will help to alleviate those anxieties.

For our pupils we will be reverting back to the processes and procedures we were following in December. We will be operating the same bubbles with minor changes to accommodation within the Secondary department. These changes have been made as some of our classrooms will be out of action whilst essential works are being carried out. The changes have been made with the best interest of our pupils and to keep year group bubbles as close together as possible. Please see the changes below;

Room Moving name before Covid	Group moving	Room Moving To	Group in 'New' room
U9 Mrs Stephens English room.	Year 11	L4 Ms Jones Maths room	Year 11 that were taught in U9
L4 Ms Jones Maths room	7EME	L13 Practical Block Ms Parkhouse/Ms Stokes classroom	7EME
L13 Practical Block Ms Parkhouse/Ms Stokes classroom	Post 16	Portacabin 1 and 2	Post 16
Music Room	7TDU	L14 Technology Computer Room	7TDU
Intervention Room		Green Room by Mrs Seickell's office	

The other major change is regarding testing procedures. Please see below our arrangements.

Please note this is for secondary pupils only and only for those who have been given parental consent.

- 02/03/2021 Tuesday PM 1.30 pm – 3.30 pm pupils already in school have test 1.
- 05/03/2021 Friday PM 1.30 pm – 3.30 pm pupils already in school have test 2.
- 08/03/2021 Monday all day or until all pupils through. Last test of pupils already in and 1st test of returning students.
- 12/03/2021 Friday PM Test 2 for returning students
- 16/03/2021 Tuesday PM Test 3 for returning students.

Students will then be issued with home test kits and information from 17/3/2021 onwards

The final major additional measure is the new information regarding the wearing of face coverings in school. Please find below information I have received from Warwickshire.

‘The Government is strengthening the use of face coverings across all sectors, as per the diagram below. In all circumstances the use of face coverings would only be recommended where a 2m social distance could not be maintained. These will be reviewed by the Government at Easter. However, in the interim, the table illustrates who needs to wear a face covering and when.’

Sectors	Cohort	Current Guidance		New Guidance		Symbol	
		Classrooms	Communal Areas	Classrooms	Communal areas		
							Classroom, teaching spaces, lecture theatres – not including during physical activity
							Communal areas including corridors and staff rooms
Early Years & Primary	Staff & Visitors	✗			✓	✓	Face coverings are recommended.
	Children	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	Face coverings are not recommended.
Secondary & FE	Staff & Visitors	✗	✓	✓	✓		Use of face coverings at the discretion of the headteacher, setting leader or provider. Face coverings should only to be considered where social distancing cannot be maintained between staff/adults , not between adults and children.
	Students	✗	✓	✓	✓		
HE	Staff & Visitors		✓	✓	✓		
	Students		✓	✓	✓		

I appreciate that some of our pupils will be exempt from wearing face coverings, but would appreciate that those who can – do. As you can see above this is an interim measure and will shortly be reviewed as with all Covid related guidance.

On another note, following further announcements regarding shielding, there are staff who will continue to teach and support from home, therefore some of our pupil lessons will continue to be via the screen, but will always have additional support in the classroom.

Lunch provision will continue as in December.

I have been asked by Mrs Hughes to remind parents of primary aged pupils to discourage our pupils from bringing in lots of toys from home. Anything needed for the journey to and from school will need to be placed in a sealable bag on arrival and remain there until taxi time. We have been informed that all school transport will revert to normal service as from March 8th. Transport providers will be expecting all pupils to return next Monday unless parents contact them direct or contact the transport team.

I hope this information will be of use to you and please could I ask that you share it with our pupils in preparation for a smooth return. We will also be taking some time out on Monday morning to reinforce and remind all of these messages to our pupils.

As always if there are any questions, queries, comments or concerns regarding anything to do with our return on Monday, please do contact me at school.

In the meantime stay safe and many, many thanks for all of your support during these very difficult times.

Kind regards,



Mrs C Marshall
Headteacher

