



BENSHAM MANOR School

Ecclesbourne Road, Croydon CR7 7BN

T: 0208 684 0116 E: theoffice@benshammanor.com W: www.benshammanor.co.uk

Headteacher : Mrs Fiona Robinson MA NPQH

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Kirstie Byrne B.Ed (Hons) NPQH

11/06/20

Dear parent/carer

I hope you are all keeping well.

I just wanted to write to you to give you some updates regarding some of the things that are currently happening at school.

As you will now be aware, the plan for all primary school children to have some time in school for the last 4 weeks of this term have been cancelled. There is still much uncertainty amongst Government advisors on how best to fully reopen schools. Currently at Bensham Manor we have 18 vulnerable/key worker children in school every day. They work in groups of 6 and the three classrooms in use are set up to ensure that we are maintaining the advised 2 meter distancing rule. I have included some pictures so that you can now see what the classrooms look like. There is a very rigorous cleaning schedule in place. The school had a second deep clean on June 9th.



Form tutors have set up Google Meet face to face sessions with their tutor groups as we believe it is important to begin to reconnect your children at this time.

As per Government guidance we have invited some year 10 pupils into school for face to face teaching starting next week. Many Year 10 families have decided that they do not want their child to return to school at this time and it is not compulsory.

We have planned a series of small Graduation Ceremonies for our Year 11 and Post 16 leavers this month and we will be inducting year 6 and Post 16 children at the end of the month again in small groups.

The staff team has been doing lots of training and the building is undergoing a redecoration programme.

I understand the difficulties with home schooling and would like to express my sincere thanks for supporting your children at home during this difficult time. I have been overjoyed with the amount and variety of work which your children have been doing and we are displaying much of it on the website.

I have written a survey which I would like you all to complete please if you can. Your views are very important and they help with future planning.

In the survey, you will see that I ask a question about whether or not you would be willing to send your child to school for three days in July. Ordinarily, the pupils spend the last two weeks of term moving up to the next year group, meeting their new form tutor and teaching assistant and starting their new timetable. This year I would like to have half of current Years 7/8/9/10 in on the 6-8th of July and the other half of current Years 7/8/9/10 in on 13-15th July. I believe it is really important that your child has some face to face time back at school before the Summer holiday period.

I will be able to do this safely using the following measures:

- The children will remain in the same classroom for three days.
- There will be no more than 6 pupils in a class.
- When pupils arrive to school they will line up with their group – at a two meter distance from pupils within their group and from all other groups.
- Pupils will not eat in the dining hall – they will either bring or be given a packed lunch which will be eaten in their classroom.
- The children and staff will wash their hands on arrival to school and at the start and end of each session.
- We will not have any child or staff member on site who presents as ill.
- We have a no visitor policy which will remain in place until the end of term.
- The school will have it's third deep clean on July 3rd.
- Ongoing cleaning takes place before, during and after the school day.
- Time will be limited in the playground and groups put on a rota.

Please click the link to complete the Survey

[Parent Survey](#)

I would appreciate it if you could complete this survey by Monday 15th June at 3pm.

On Monday June 15th we are going to trial taking pupils temperatures on arrival to school. If this is successful it will become part of daily practice. If your child registers as having a high temperature reading they will be sent home and will be unable to return to school for seven days.

Additionally, there is some new guidance on the changes to the PSHE Curriculum which is soon changing to RSE and Health Education and will become statutory next academic year. Please read and send any feedback through to the school office. There will be further opportunities to look at the new curriculum once school reopens fully.

We really do miss your children and we are looking forward to welcoming them back fully once it is safe to do so.

Please take care and do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely

Fiona Robinson

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Headteacher