

Wednesday 19th August



BRADGATE
Education Partnership

FAO All Parents/Carers of Bradgate Education Partnership

Dear All

Re: Arrangements for the re-opening of schools

Firstly, we hope that you and your families are safe and well and that you, like us, are looking forward to schools re-opening next week.

As set out before we closed for the Summer, and following extensive planning, it remains our intention to begin fully opening all schools from Wednesday 26th August. Each of our schools will be implementing local arrangements, with some year groups potentially starting on different days to allow a smooth transition back, and your headteacher will be in touch this week with further details specific to your school and your child.

On-going adjustments

Clearly there will be a number of adjustments to how our schools operate, such as additional cleaning, changes to dining arrangements and adjustments to movement around our sites. However, we will be trying to make school look and feel as 'normal' as possible upon return. We are planning for pupils to return in full classes – therefore whilst we will take a sensible approach, social-distancing measures in a school cannot be guaranteed.

Communication & updates

We will continue to try and communicate with you as regularly as we can and we know that there will be a few 'bumps in the road' during the Autumn and clear and regular communication will be crucial. All schools will have a 'Covid' tab on their website for any updates and we would urge families to get in touch with their school to raise any concerns and discuss any issues.

We will shortly be writing to you to set out our guidance on what to do during the Autumn when children and students inevitably start to get cold/flu symptoms and how we intend to manage this.

Holidays & Quarantine

If your child is affected by the new quarantine rules put in place from destinations such as France and Spain please get in touch with your school as soon as possible to discuss interim arrangements and support for your child's return.

Pupils not returning

The government has clearly stated that it expects all pupils to return to school. However, we know many of you are managing very complex scenarios. Therefore if, despite the adjustments, you feel your child will not, or cannot, return to school please contact your headteacher to discuss the matter.

Before and after-school care

We know that these are crucial services for our families and we are currently looking at whether we can provide these in August. We are planning to have them up and running as soon as possible. Your school will communicate local arrangements with you.

Closure Policy

During the Summer term we operated a policy of closing 'bubbles' following any suspected cases of Coronavirus. During the Autumn term we now only intend to close groups or 'bubbles' following a confirmed positive case.

Testing

If, or more likely when, we experience a suspected case in one of our settings we will ask for the child, student or member of staff to immediately get a test. We would appreciate your co-operation with this policy. Also, for clarity, following some concerns communicated to us, we want to make it absolutely clear that we will never test a child or student.

Thank you again for your support. We are planning for a really exciting, but possibly testing few months and whilst we fully expect some on-going challenges presented by the current pandemic we are hugely optimistic and thrilled to be seeing our staff and students return.

On a final note, we know many of you will be a little anxious or have a few concerns. If this is the case, please come and talk to us.

Yours Sincerely



Gareth Nelmes
Chief Executive Officer



Dean Pomeroy
Director of Schools