

Ref DJB/AQG/Letters/Pastoral Sessions Y7 Y8 Y9 June

26 June 2020

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Dear Parent/Carer

RE: «Full Name» – «Year Group» «Reg Group»

Recently the government announced an ambition for all students to be able to have a face-to-face session in their school before the summer.

We are delighted to be able to offer our students in Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 a face-to-face pastoral session in the coming weeks, prior to the summer break.

Whilst I appreciate the thought of your child returning to the Academy may cause some apprehension, please let me assure you that Fairfax Multi-Academy Trust will follow government guidance and take every reasonable measure to protect the safety of both staff and students. The government guidance will be followed and student numbers in classes restricted to ensure social distancing of 2m. For your information, the guidance can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preparing-for-the-wider-opening-of-schools-from-1-june/planning-guide-for-secondary-schools>.

Should you decide that you will not be sending your child in to school, we would ask that you contact the Attendance Officer on the day your child was due to attend to advise they will not be attending.

If you have decided to send «Preferred_Forename» into school then the following information and direction is of vital importance to you and «Preferred_Forename».

«Preferred_Forename»'s pastoral session is on «DATE» – «TIME» with «TEACHER».
«Preferred_Forename» should enter through «GATE», no more than 5 minutes before the «ARRIVAL» session, and proceed through the «ENTRANCE_DOOR» to Room «ROOM».

Hand sanitizer will be available on entrance and exit for «Preferred_Forename» to use. Additional handwashing facilities will also be available in the «TOILET_AREA».

The number of students on site each day will be low and Fairfax Academy will have enhanced levels of cleaning. Classrooms have been selected that are easy to clean regularly and hand washing and social distance guidance will be adhered to. Each classroom will be cleaned between sessions to lessen the risk of surface transmission. Students will be based in one classroom for their time in school and so the risk of contact in corridors is minimized. Hand sanitizer will be located near classrooms, but if it is possible for you to send your child with a small sanitizer, we would encourage this. Students should also bring tissues along with their school equipment. Please make sure your child is aware of the requirement to 'catch it, bin it, kill it' and they are also reminded of how to wash their hands properly. There will be signs in the school to remind them of the technique.

If your child is ill or displaying symptoms as listed on the NHS website <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/> they should not attend school and you should arrange a Covid-19 test as soon as possible. If any member of your family is experiencing symptoms, your child should isolate with the rest of the household for 14 days. If your child is taken ill or

displays symptoms during their school sessions, they will be moved to a well ventilated room and you will be called. Please collect your child as soon as possible.

Students will be expected to wear their school uniform, but do not need to bring their blazer to school. Your child's uniform should be washed on their return home.

All students will have been assigned an entrance to arrive by, and they must use this gate. If possible, please drop off and collect your child to avoid the use of public transport, or encourage them to walk or cycle. If your child will be walking to school, they should adhere to government guidance regarding people numbers and social distancing. Please plan the journey to arrive at the start time of the session in order to avoid congregation around gates.

«Preferred_Forename» should return home immediately after the session has ended; students should not gather in groups in the local community. Following the session, the teacher will escort students to their gate, ensuring social distancing is adhered to.

If your child is unable to attend their session please report their absence in the usual way by calling the school. As stated, if your child or any member of your household is displaying symptoms of Covid-19 your child must not attend Fairfax Academy. Government recommendations state that face coverings should not be worn within the school setting.

Please ensure your child brings appropriate equipment as it will not be possible to lend supplies. Students should not bring exercise books or folders to school, and should only bring a school bag if absolutely necessary.

The team at Fairfax Academy appreciates that it will be difficult for a number of our students to return to school. Please be assured that the staff are really looking forward to welcoming our students back and we will do all we can to make these difficult times easier for them, please support us by sharing the contents of this letter and talking to them about how things will be different. As an academy we cannot completely eliminate all risk but we can do all that we can to minimize any potential risk. Please be assured the safety and welfare of our students remains our priority.

We are very much looking forward to seeing «Preferred_Forename» soon!

Yours sincerely



MRS D J BUNN
Head of Academy