



MAGHULL HIGH SCHOOL

SPECIALIST ACADEMY FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

All to: Aspire, Achieve, Enjoy

Headteacher: Ms D Aspinall BSc

Coronavirus Covid-19 Update

Dear Parent

Given the unprecedented situation regarding Covid-19, I wanted to update you on the steps we are taking to keep Maghull High School safe and clean for students and staff and ensure as little disruption to learning as possible.

We are continuing to follow official guidance and advice from the Government, Department for Health and Social Care and the Department for Education. The well-being of our students and staff is of the greatest importance to us and we will continue to ensure policies and procedures reflect the best available information from those authorities.

Hand and Respiratory Hygiene

We have strengthened our procedures and actions to minimise the spread of Covid-19 virus.

Encouraging good hygiene by catching coughs and sneezes in a tissue and promoting the importance of regular hand washing for at least 20 seconds with soap and hot water during the day:

Before leaving home

On arrival at school

After using the toilet

Before eating any food or snacks

After breaks and sporting activities

To supplement this hand sanitiser dispensers and tissues are located around the school, in classrooms, dining rooms, toilets, ICT rooms and workshops. Students can also have personal hand sanitisers refilled on request. Frequently touched objects, hard surfaces and high traffics areas are being cleaned and disinfected more regularly than usual.

Student Activity

In order to limit students' contact with one another in large groups there will be no year group assemblies.

Self-Imposed Isolation

In accordance with the government's latest advice, if your child is experiencing a 'new, continuous' cough or high temperature please do not send him / her into school for seven days. Similarly, we will contact you and ask you to collect your child from school if he / she presents with symptoms to First Aid.

Staff Absence

In the event of high levels of staff and student absence from school over the coming weeks we will implement a range of measures, including collapsing elements of the timetable and redeploying teachers to prioritise the teaching of students for whom public examinations are imminent.

Public Examinations

I am aware that many students who have important GCSE and A Level examinations will be anxious about how they will be affected by Covid-19. At this stage, the guidance from Ofqual (the examinations regulator) is for students to continue to prepare as normal. Ofqual is working with the Department for Education and the examination boards to plan for a range of scenarios and has commented that the priority is to ensure fairness and minimise disruption to students. When further information is communicated to schools I will, of course, share this with students and parents.

School Trips and Events

Whilst the government is keen for schools to remain open they have advised against school trips overseas. We will review whether other school trips and events will go ahead on a case by case basis.

Year 8 and 9 Parent Evenings

Year 8 and Year 9 Parent Evenings have been postponed until further notice. Information has been sent home and if parents wish to discuss anything further please do not hesitate to telephone the school or email your child's Head of Year, tutor or subject teacher.

Food Service

Whilst we are currently available to maintain a full dining room service for students before school, during morning break and lunchtime, this may change in the future if members of the catering team are unable to attend work. It may be necessary in the coming weeks for students to bring a packed lunch to school.

Further Advice and Guidance

For more information on the steps you can take to mitigate the spread of Covid-19, please visit the Department for Health and Social Care website.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>

We will also continue to keep you updated through email, our social media accounts and the school website, as appropriate.

I trust the information outlined in this letter is helpful and that you will understand the rationale behind the measures we have taken. I will write again in the near future to provide further updates but if, in the meantime, you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the appropriate person in school.

Thank you for all your support in keeping one another safe.

Yours sincerely

Ms Davina Aspinall
Headteacher

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