



**Assalaamu Alaikum – ‘Peace be upon you’**

Dear Parents/Guardians

**RE: September**

I pray that you and your family are safe and well. Aameen.

Following my [letter](#) earlier this month, I am writing with a further update on students returning to school next week.

**Face Coverings**

The Government has updated guidance for the wearing of face coverings. As a result, your daughter will need to wear a face covering when:

- Travelling to and from school (if on the school bus, on public transport or sharing cars with those outside of their household).
- The wearing of face coverings will be optional in school for students and staff. This will change if the local area is designated for special measures as the result of any local lockdown.

Please note that:

- Face coverings should be washed regularly if being reused.
- Students should also wash hands with soap, or disinfect them, after putting on or removing their covering.
- Students will not be required to wear a face covering when in lesson, outside the building at break times, or eating in the Dining Hall.
- Students who have medical grounds for not wearing a face covering will be exempt from doing so. Please inform the school if this is the case.
- Members of staff will also wear a face covering at times if they are not able to maintain distancing from others.

**Students or Staff who test positive for COVID-19**

If your daughter develops the symptoms of COVID-19 (a new, persistent cough, high temperature or a change or loss of smell or taste), please:

- Keep her at home and ask her to isolate along with the rest of the household. If she develops symptoms at school, we will keep her away from other students and ask you to take her home.
- Book a test immediately.
- Inform the school that your daughter is symptomatic and the outcome of the test so that we can take steps to keep the rest of the school community safe. The school will ask to see evidence of the test booking and result.





If a student or member of staff tests positive, the school will:

- Inform the Local Authority and contact NHS 'Test and Trace' to follow their guidance.
- Contact parents (via a letter sent by text message) if your daughter has been in close or direct contact with someone who has tested positive, advising her to isolate at home for 14 days.
- Take steps to ensure that students who are isolating are able to continue to access their learning online if they are well enough to do so. Only students who have a shielding letter or have been asked to isolate at home (because of symptoms or a COVID-19 positive test) will be able to access online lessons. Otherwise, all students are expected to be in school.

### **How can parents help?**

Although this is a challenging time for everyone, and returning to school can cause worry, the school has taken considerable steps to ensure that any risks are minimised. Each day, we will be working hard to ensure that all of our students feel safe, enjoy their learning and have the best possible chance to achieve.

To support us in this effort, I would ask all parents to:

- Ensure that your daughter only attends school if she and everyone in her household have no symptoms.
- Reassuring your daughter that it is safe to attend school and ensuring that she does so each day.
- Inform the school immediately if your daughter is absent for any reason so that we know if she is symptomatic.
- Ensure that your daughter is aware of, and follows, each of the expectations we have of all students. Please read these in the sections below.
- Be aware of, and respect, local restrictions relating to the social mixing of households. These are available here: <https://www.blackburn.gov.uk/coronavirus/local-restrictions-control-virus-spread>
- Advise the school if your daughter has anxieties so that we can support her welfare and learning.
- Be patient and understanding with the school and all of our staff who will be working incredibly hard during this time.



### **10 Key Expectations**

Please read the guidance on the next few pages and ensure that your daughter follows each of these expectations. This guidance is mostly unchanged since we shared it in my letter earlier this month (changes are shown in red). We will share more information with your daughter when she attends school next week.

In particular, we need your daughter to follow each of the rules outlined below (for all students):

1. Only attend school if you and all members of your household do not have Covid-19 related symptoms.
2. Wear a mask or face covering if using the school bus or public transport, entering and leaving school, and walking outside of their 'bubble' homebase.
3. Arrive to school and leave to go home at the designated time. Do not congregate in school at the end of the day.
4. Use a sanitiser to disinfect hands on entering and leaving school and each lesson within the day. Wash hands with soap regularly during the day.
5. Stick to your 'bubble' and homebase at all times.
6. Avoid physical contact at all times. No hugs, shaking hands etc. Maintain as much distance from others as possible.
7. In the classroom, do not move the table or chair. Avoid touching displays and other surfaces. Wipe specialist equipment before and after use.
8. At break and lunchtimes, go outside (if weather is good) or designated venue (if weather is poor). Maintain a safe distance from others.
9. Do not share belongings (stationery, food etc) with others.
10. Use your designated toilets only. Only enter the toilets if there is a free cubicle.

We really appreciate your amazing support with this.

If you have any concerns or queries, or need support in any way, please contact the school.

Please remember the school, and each of our young women and the staff who serve them, in your prayers. Aameen.

Yours sincerely,

**Anand Patel**

Principal

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