

Clacton County High School

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Higher Expectations, Raising Aspirations

Our reference: CTALET15/lh

5th November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Following the announcement last Saturday from the Prime Minister and the subsequent vote in Parliament on Wednesday, you will be aware that the country has now entered into a period of lockdown (Lockdown 2) as of today, until at least Wednesday, 2nd December, when the data on the spread of the virus will be reviewed.

Lockdown 2 changes

At this time, unless informed otherwise by Public Health England, all schools remain open and our aim is to keep all of our staff and students safe to ensure CCHS can remain open. With this in mind, it is vitally important that we remain extremely vigilant and do as much as we can to mitigate any risks. Behaviour both inside, and outside within the community, will help us to protect each other as much as possible.

Therefore, as of Monday, 9^{th} November, we will be making the following changes to our already robust procedures:

Meetings:

We will not be holding any face-to-face meetings with parents in school. We had already kept these to a minimum, but these will now all be through video call or telephone only. Please do not come into reception unless specifically invited to do so and only in exceptional circumstances.

Face masks:

Under the fresh government guidance, wearing a face mask in school in all social areas, where a two-metre distance cannot be maintained, is now mandatory, unless exempt for a medical reason. Therefore, all students in years 7 to 11 will be required to keep their face masks on at all times, including when in corridors and communal spaces around the school, and until they are seated in their classroom. If a student needs to leave the classroom for any reason, they then will be required to put on their face mask before leaving their seat. Students should not be eating whilst walking around corridors and must always have a face mask on. We will be emailing home to parents/carers if your child has not been wearing their face mask in the corridor and ask for your support in reinforcing this message at home. Persistent failure to accept this personal responsibility may result in a sanction, in line with the school's Behaviour for Learning policy, but we would wish to avoid this.

• After school activities:

Only after school activities linked directly to academic support will be offered at this time; students will be invited by their teachers to attend any appropriate sessions.

Behaviour for Learning:

The Behaviour for Learning Policy will remain in place and C3 detentions will be held in the main hall straight after school each evening.

Please can you help by ensuring that your child does the following:

- Brings at least one face covering to school every day please check this.
- Arrives at school on time and enters through the correct entrance.
- Attends in full school uniform and has their own bag and equipment, drink and coat.
- Avoids breaches of social distancing including any play fighting at break/social times.

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Full attendance is still expected in schools, so please continue to notify the school of any absence. It is vitally important that if your child displays any symptoms, or has been in close contact with someone who has symptoms, or has tested positive, they should remain at home and you must contact the school as a matter of urgency. Further guidance is available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection

Extended offer of hot food

For all year groups we have been able to extend the food availability from the canteen to include 2 break times each week when students will be able access a 'grab and go' option. This additional hot food option has resulted in some adjustments to the timings of lunches for some year groups. You can see from the table below that students will now have access to Clouds on 4 days each week:

	Break	Grab & Go	Lunch	Clouds
Year 7	10.20am	Tues & Fri	11.55am	Mon & Weds
Year 8	11.40am	Weds & Fri	1.15pm	Tues & Thurs
Year 9	11.40am 10.20am	Tues Thurs	1.15pm 11.55am	Mon Thurs
Year 10	10.20am	Mon & Wed	11.55am	Tues & Fri
Year 11	11.40am	Mon & Thurs	1.15pm	Weds & Fri

Years 10 & 11

For years 10 and 11, we have just been made aware of a series of free online webinars available for parents to assist their children, beginning with Exam Preparations on Tuesday, 10th November between 6.00 and 7.00pm. You can sign up using this link https://get.elevatecoaching.info/uk/register/ or click here for additional information Flyer. There are two remaining sessions available; as long as you register, you can click and view at any time after the date.

Years 7 & 8

For years 7 & 8, due to further guidance released by the DfE and the latest information detailing the constraints placed by government outside of school on junior sports, disappointingly we have had to make adjustments to our PE plans for both the curricular and extra-curricular preparations. Although school PE lessons were exempt from this guidance, we have decided to reflect what is happening in the wider community, therefore with immediate effect, all our planned extra-curricular activities have been cancelled until further notice. We have decided to remove the opportunity for participation in swimming in the short term. We will continue to operate PE activities as within the first half of the autumn term prior to half term.

This is a particularly tough time for everyone, and I am sure we are all determined to keep our children in school and learning, but this will only be possible if we all follow the guidance to suppress the spread of the Coronavirus. We are all making the sacrifices of not meeting up with our family and friends, but we will all get there together and your support in encouraging your child to follow the procedures as of Monday, 9th November will be crucial in keeping schools open and, really importantly, keeping our loved ones safe and well.

If you wish to have any clarification on any of these requirements, please do not hesitate to contact us via admin@cchs.school

Executive Headteacher: Neil Gallagher

Head of School: Chris Taylor

Stay safe and stay well.

Yours sincerely

CHRIS TAYLOR Head of School

