



6th November 2020

Dear parents

We have enjoyed a good start to term and welcomed the students back after the break with a renewed focus on learning and a reminder of the journey we are all making to be the “best version of ourselves”.

You will know that, as of yesterday, the country has entered a second lockdown until Wednesday December 2nd. The DFE have release updated guidance and we have reviewed our risk assessment in light of this new guidance. You will notice that, as far as education is concerned, there is little change from the expectations that have been in place for Leicester since the start of term.

The guidance reminds us that children and their parents and carers are encouraged to walk or cycle when travelling to and from school where this is possible. For those students who take the bus the expectations remain:

- All students should sanitize their hands before entering the bus – either their own or using the sanitizer provided
- Students should wait safely, observing 2m if possible and wearing a mask if social distancing is not possible.
- Students must wear a mask for the duration of the journey – this must not be removed.
- Students should sit in their year group bubbles as follows:
Year 7 - top floor from the back
Year 8 - top floor front and bottom floor back
Year 9 - bottom floor front.
- They must not move between bubbles.
- Windows are open on the bus for ventilation – they must not be closed.

In school the focus for everyone remains on Hands – Face - Space

Students should:

- Sanitize or wash hands when entering the building or room
- Masks should be worn in corridors and where social distancing is not possible
- Observe 2m distancing whenever possible

Please also remember your child should not attend school if they display symptoms and if they have come into contact with someone with COVID-19, they should self-isolate for 14 days. The link below is to our Covid information section on the website that holds our risk assessment

<https://avanti.org.uk/avantifields/risk-assessment/>

The latest lockdown does however, means that sadly we cannot start our extra-curricular programme, as we had wished.

I know that everyone understands we are dealing with an ever-changing situation and we appreciate your support and understanding as we continue our efforts in welcoming students back to school safely and engaging in their learning.

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“Avanti Fields School” is an academy school within the trust, and is effectively a trading name of the trust.

On a happier note the new site continues to grow at good pace. The latest photos really show what an impressive building it will be. We were also able to conduct the ground breaking and blessing ceremony on the 25th October (which sadly had to be a closed event due to the covid restrictions).

The day, celebrated as the auspicious Dussehra, signifying Lord Rama's victory over the demoniac Ravana, was quite apt for this ceremony. The priest, Pandit Shyam das along with Mr Gajjar, who had to sit on the cold concrete floor of the school, invoked the presence of Lord Krishna and offered prayers for benediction and removal of obstacles for the project. A sacrificial fire was lit with offerings of grains to symbolise expressions of gratitude to the Lord. The ceremony concluded with burying deities of Kurma and Ananta, requesting Them to be the shelter and resting place of the school.

Mr Gajjar reported that ,upon the completion of the ceremony, there was a slight drizzle, creating a beautiful rainbow over the school. Pandit Shyam das commented, 'this is a sign the offering has been accepted. Hare Krishna'

And a fitting sign of hope for the future.

Do enjoy the weekend



Emma Taplin
Principal

