



5th November 2020

Dear Families,

After the first day of school during the November Lockdown, I can say that the school and community responded well to the required changes as set out in my communication last night.

To add further clarity around the new guidance published last night. The team and I are doing our utmost to ensure pupils feel welcomed, safe and nurtured during these particularly unusual times.

Please see below a break-down of the information that the school is adhering to:

<p>Key Government Websites</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.gov.uk/guidance/education-and-childcare-settings-new-national-restrictions-from-5-november-2020?utm_source=4%20November%202020%20C19&utm_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm_campaign=DfE%20C19 • https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus • https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools
<p>Principles from government guidelines</p>	<p><u>Existing Government Guidance</u></p> <p>Schools must comply with health and safety law, which requires them to assess risks and put in place proportionate control measures. Schools should thoroughly review their health and safety risk assessments and draw up plans for the autumn term that address the risks identified using the system of controls set out below. These are an adapted form of the system of protective measures that will be familiar from the summer term. Essential measures include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a requirement that people who are ill stay at home • robust hand and respiratory hygiene • enhanced cleaning arrangements • active engagement with NHS Test and Trace • formal consideration of how to reduce contacts and maximise distancing between those in school wherever possible and minimise potential for contamination so far as is reasonably practicable.

	<p>How contacts are reduced will depend on the school's circumstances and will (as much as possible) include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • grouping children together • arranging classrooms with forward facing desks • staff maintaining distance from pupils and other staff as much as possible <p>These control measures continue to be applied through the school's ongoing Covid-19 risk assessment, which is review regularly, and can be found on our website:</p> <p>https://avanti.org.uk/avantigardens/wp-content/uploads/sites/23/2020/11/Risk-Assessment-for-Schools-Full-Opening-September-04.11.20.pdf</p>
Student Bubbles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils continue to be grouped into "bubbles" based upon year groups (Year5/6 are one bubble). • Breaktimes and lunchtimes have been zoned to eliminate crossing of bubbles. • Pupils will have lessons in all subjects and will follow a 'normal' timetable.
Clinically extremely vulnerable children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More evidence has emerged that shows there is a very low risk of children becoming very unwell from coronavirus (COVID-19), even for children with existing health conditions. Most children originally identified as clinically extremely vulnerable no longer need to follow original shielding advice. Parents should be advised to speak to their child's GP or specialist clinician if they have not already done so, to understand whether their child should still be classed as clinically extremely vulnerable. • Those children whose doctors have confirmed they are still clinically extremely vulnerable are advised not to attend childcare or nursery during the period this advice is in place. • Children who live with someone who is clinically extremely vulnerable, but who are not clinically extremely vulnerable themselves, should still attend education or childcare.
Classroom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each classroom has been structured for 30 pupils, each distanced by 1m, with two chairs per desk using a seating plan. • The teachers have a 'space' of 2m space at the front of the classroom. • Cleaning stations have been provided for each classroom. • Doors and where possible windows remain open at all times to minimise use of handles and increase ventilation.
Movement around the school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An orderly one-way system continues to be used throughout the school with clearly marked directions to follow.
Lunches for pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lunches are served following the menu communicated by Govinda's. • Support staff and a member of SLT will be on duty alongside Midday Supervisors. • Pupils will have to bring water bottles each day.

Cleaning of the school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is enhanced cleaning of the school during each day with a cleaner employed during the day to clean toilets, corridors, door handles and surfaces that are commonly touched. • Each night, all classrooms and communal spaces are cleaned so that the school remains safe. • Hand sanitisers are supplied in all classrooms and lidded bins to enable disposal of tissues and are regularly disposed of. • Regular hand washing is encouraged throughout the day.
Families before school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents or carers must check their own children and not send to school if they are displaying symptoms or have been in contact with anybody who has been positively diagnosed. • If householders are displaying symptoms but undiagnosed they will also be asked to remain at home.
Children who are displaying symptoms whilst at school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The procedures that were previously followed regarding isolation and collection by parents will be followed. • https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection • https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/
Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will continue to communicate every week each Friday via our Families' Bulletin.
Trips and Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No local or residential trips will be taking place during the pandemic.
Classroom Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where a pupil has an Educational Health Care Plan and requires some additional in class support by a Teaching Assistant; the support will be socially distanced from both the teacher and the pupil so far as reasonably possible.
Parental Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings will continue where possible to be conducted by telephone conversations or via a remote platform e.g. 'Zoom' or 'Microsoft Teams'.
Assemblies and gatherings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be no assemblies or gatherings in person, these will take place digitally instead.
Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidelines on the use of public transport -please see links for clear guidance on use. • https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/926732/coronavirus-safer-travel-easy-read-guidance-document.pdf • https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-safer-travel-guidance-for-passengers • Parents must be mindful of not sharing transport with other children from different families.

Exams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Prime Minister and Education Secretary have said that tests will go ahead next summer. We are waiting further guidance in relation to Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 SATs.
Risk Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The up-to-date Risk Assessment can be found on the school website.

Yours Faithfully,

Mr Milum
Principal