



Ark Elvin Academy

16 October 2020

Dear parents/carers,

We have been so proud with how well our pupils have settled into our new school year this term. There may still be many challenges facing our community and our country as we live through this pandemic but inside our school, we have been able to create our 'new normal'. Our school is calm and purposeful, our pupils are hardworking and focused and we are doing everything we can to keep each other safe and unlike many other schools across the country stay open.

As you will all be aware this weekend London is moving to Tier 2 lockdown restrictions. This is because Covid infection rates are continuing to rise across the capital. Amongst other measures it means that households can no longer mix indoors. However, we are delighted that the government has said that schools will remain open. This is vital to ensure that your child's education is not further affected by the impact of Covid.

This does mean that our safety measures are more important than ever.

Please discuss the following safety steps with your child and make sure that we all do everything we can to stay safe and keep our school open.

- Only use **public transport** if you have to – if your child must use the bus, they must wear a mask
- Regularly **wash your hands** for 20 seconds and use our hand sanitising centres
- Maintain **social distance** at all times outside your classrooms – especially outside at break and lunchtime when you are mixing outside your class bubbles and outside schools
- **Wear a mask** in all communal areas of school. We have strongly recommended this since the start of term and have given masks to KS4 and KS5 to wear. **On Monday we will be providing KS3 pupils with masks to wear whenever they are outside their classroom.** If you have any concerns about your child wearing a mask please email their form tutor if not we will expect all pupils to wear masks in communal areas to ensure we protect our community and keep our school open.

We are determined to do what it takes to keep our staff and pupils safe and to keep our school open. At this stage the government have been clear that they will keep schools open but if this changes and we are told to close the school we are working

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hard on our home learning plans. In any future lockdown where pupils need to learn from home, we will be providing significantly more live online teaching as we know this is the best way to support your child to continue to learn and work hard – even from home. We will share more details if or when this is necessary.

For now we will focus on staying safe and keeping our school open and supporting each other through these difficult times. Whatever we have ahead of us we will face it together and do all we can to keep our children happy, safe and learning.

Kindest regards,

Ms Curtis
Principal

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