



Gladesmore Community School

Crowland Road, London, N15 6EB.
Tel: 020 8800 0884 Website: gladesmore.com



15th April 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Summer Term

I am pleased to confirm that school will reopen as planned for the summer term on Monday 19th April. The timetable, routines and rules will continue to be as they were before the Easter break. Year 11 will have a series of examinations and these are detailed separately.

A reminder of some of the key arrangements are outlined below.

The start and end of school

Lessons will continue to be staggered. Year groups must continue to use the entrances specified below:

Year 7: Crowland Road entrance - start at 8.30am and depart at 2.30pm (1.30pm on Thurs & Friday).

Year 8: Gladesmore Road entrance - start at 8.30am and depart at 2.30pm (1.30pm on Thurs & Friday).

Year 9: Crowland Road entrance - start at 9.30am and depart at 2.50pm (2.00pm on Thurs & Friday).

Year 10: Gladesmore Road entrance - start at 10.00am and depart at 3.40pm (2.50pm on Friday).

Year 11: Crowland Road entrance - start at 10.00am and depart at 3.40pm (2.50pm on Friday).

Masks

Pupils will continue to be required to wear face masks in school, **in both classrooms and corridors**. Please make sure that pupils have a mask with them, it is not optional, this requirement will be strictly enforced.

Masks do not have to be worn outside in the playground at break and lunchtimes or during physical activities in PE lessons.

A small number of young people are exempt from wearing face coverings for medical reasons. If your child is exempt, please ensure we are aware of this. Medical evidence may be requested.

Masks or lanyards must be worn every day, these will be checked at the gate on arrival, and throughout the day.

I appreciate that masks can be uncomfortable to wear, but it is imperative that we do our utmost to keep everyone safe. Pupils did extremely well last term and we all got used to it. I know that many of our children and staff live with vulnerable people, and all too many are very sadly grieving from this awful pandemic. Our heartfelt condolences go out to all who have lost loved ones.

It is encouraging to now see that the local and national situation is improving so we hope to be in a much better position shortly. The control measures will be reviewed periodically.



COVID Home Tests

Before pupils return to school, we ask that they do a Covid test at home. To facilitate this, we issued home testing kits before the holidays. We will be giving out further home test kits during the term.

- test before returning to school, either the night before, or the morning of, the first day back
- test twice a week during term time at home; 3 - 5 days apart

If you require home test kits for other family members, you are eligible to collect free kits from local community test centres or order them online.

It is important for our young people to continue to play their part and use the test kits at home. This will minimise the spread of infection and help the school remain as safe as possible for everyone. Lateral flow tests help to identify anyone who may be positive for the virus but not showing symptoms. Any pupils who are unwell should remain at home as usual.

If anyone in the household returns a positive test, you must arrange a confirmatory PCR test at your local testing centre. All members of the household must self-isolate until the result of this test is known and continue to isolate for 10 days.

Please immediately inform the school of any positive results by emailing admin@gladesmore.com, and any subsequent PCR test results, to enable the school to conduct its track and trace obligation.

Curriculum

We will resume the usual timetable with the full range of subjects available. On days where pupils have Physical Education, they should continue to come to school in Gladesmore PE uniform and wear this all day. This avoids the need for changing.

Health controls

Very importantly, we ask that any children who are unwell should stay at home. For example, if a child has cold symptoms, has a snuffle, is coughing or sneezing, they should stay at home for a week or longer until completely well. I appreciate this can be problematic, particularly as pollen levels increase in the summer. But this remains a critical control measure to both minimise the potential for colds being spread and to reduce general anxiety. If a child becomes unwell at school, they will be sent home and asked to stay home until they are better.

If any child, or someone they have any contact with, develop symptoms compatible with coronavirus, they should not attend school. This is regardless of whether the child is showing any symptoms.

Anyone with coronavirus symptoms, and anyone who has had close contact with someone who has tested positive, will be expected to self-isolate for 10 days. Remote learning materials will be available for young people who might need to remain at home.

Social distancing

It is imperative that all pupils always maintain a 2-metre social distance from staff. Staff work with children across all bubbles and are required to social distance from pupils and each other.

Pupils must keep separate from children in other year group bubbles and maintain social distancing. They must avoid physical contact with each other. Hugging is not permitted. Pupils must continue to comply with the rules, follow the one-way routes and keep to the left in corridors.

Looking forward

I am very pleased that the return to school went extremely well last term and we intend to build on this in coming weeks. It is wonderful for the children to enjoy their education in school again. They have been outstanding. Grateful thanks go to parents and carers for your support to help make this happen so smoothly.

The safety of your children and the staff is of utmost importance to us. We will continue to closely monitor the local coronavirus infection rates and the guidance from the Government, DFE and Public Health England; it may consequently become necessary to make changes at short notice.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter and for your understanding during this challenging time. With the warmer weather gradually arriving, and infection rates reducing, we are filled with optimism for the longer-term. With your cooperation we can maintain a safe school that is happy and enjoyable for everyone.

Sincerely,

T. Hartney CBE