

The Eaglewood School

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3rd June 2020

Dear Parent / Carer / Student

**Re: Partial Reopening of Eaglewood School to Year 6 and Year 10**

On Thursday during half-term, the Prime Minister confirmed the well-publicised intention that from 1st June at the earliest for Year 6, and from the 15th June at the earliest for Year 10, the government is permitting secondary schools to offer some face-to-face education for these students. This is obviously in addition to the work already in hand providing lessons in school for the children of critical workers and other eligible families.

At Eaglewood School this means that we shall now be able supplement our online provision for Year 10 with face to face lessons and offer a full time in school provision for Year 6. Most other students however will have to remain at home and continue their education remotely. I shall therefore deploy staff proportionally to meet the demands of educating what is essentially four different cohorts.

You will not be surprised to know that staff have been working on plans to put this into action over the last month. These plans have been devised in discussion with all head teachers and principals from New Forest secondary schools and colleges.  Although there are some differences in the details of each school’s or college's plans due to the individual restrictions of each school community's setting, all have been made with the core purpose that we will do all that we can to support our students, without ever compromising their safety.

Foremost in the minds of school leaders is the health and welfare of our students and staff. We believe we are able to operate safely, within the guidance offered by The Department for Education (DfE) and Public Health England (PHE). Among the very many issues we have considered is the need to maintain strict social distancing between staff and students and between our students, enable frequent hand hygiene and increase the frequency of surface and room cleaning. It is also vitally important that we keep each of our four cohorts (Pods) completely separate from each other. This will entail different start and finish times, different rooms, different break and lunch times and different staff. Each Pod will operate in isolation to the others to avoid cross contamination and to ensure if cases are discovered only certain pods will need to isolate as per Government guidelines.

In determining the rationale for having students in school we have considered the views many of you have expressed during your conversations with staff. As such our aim is to meet the emotional needs of as many students as possible and provide individualised support on academic study, focussing on Maths, English and Science. To achieve this, we have had to consider the availability of non-shielding staff and the need to keep the groups separate.

So that you have, from the outset, a realistic expectation of what the school can provide, I need to be clear, this **will not** **be**, for the time being, school as we knew it.

Please forgive me providing a stark list of rules but I am sure you understand clarity is important in this situation. Therefore, it will be essential that the following important rules are fully observed to keep everyone on site healthy and safe.

Students: -

* with COVID-19 symptoms may not attend school for a minimum of 7 days and should be tested to confirm.
* who have come into contact with a person showing COVID-19 symptoms must remain isolated at home in accordance with PHE guidelines.
* must remain **2 metres** apart from any other person.
* must remain in the one group to which they are allocated at **all** times while in school.
* may only attend school at the specific times given to their designated group.
* must observe the staggered breaks and lunchtime allocated to their designated group.
* may only use the toilet allocated to their designated group.
* must occupy the same allocated seat in their designated classroom.
* Must only use the pens/ pencils etc allocated to them and must not share with other students.
* when arriving at school, must go directly to their group’s designated meeting point.
* when leaving school, must observe rules on social distancing and not congregate with others.
* must bring their own water to drink.
* must wear school uniform which is regularly washed.

We will begin to welcome back all Year 6 pupils from Monday 8th June and will be able to offer them an in-school provision from 9am until 2pm every day. All Year 6 should be “strongly encouraged” to attend. They will be met at the middle gate, by the herb garden and delivered back to this area at the end of the session.

We shall begin to offer Year 10 students the opportunity to return to school from Monday 15th June on a part time basis. They will need to attend school on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoon from 1.15 until 2.30 pm. They will receive one hour of Maths, English and Science tuition each week. They are not to socialise around the school and are to arrive and leave promptly.

They will be met at the far right-hand gate near the main school entrance and will leave the same way.

As you will appreciate, this exercise is extremely complex but designed to maximise the number of students being able to attend school while adequately meeting the needs of the larger number receiving home education.

The frequently asked questions (FAQ) sheet accompanying this letter will set out further details. Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to email the school at [admin@eaglewoodschool.co.uk](mailto:admin@eaglewoodschool.co.uk) As we are operating a skeleton staff in school, please allow additional time for a reply.

Staff and I are very grateful to parents/carers for the effort so many of you are making to keep children from falling behind. Working together, I am confident we can continue to do the best for your child and begin to catch-up where needed. For the majority of students who are not able to attend school currently then the online lessons will continue as normal.

Thanks again for all your hard work in helping us maintain a safe education provision for your children

Yours sincerely



**Nigel Himmel**

**Headteacher**

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**FAQs**

**What happens if a student or teacher in my child’s group becomes ill with COVID-19?**

Should your child come into contact with another student or adult showing symptoms of COVID-19 they and their designated group will be informed and they must isolate in accordance with PHE guidelines +.

All staff and students who are attending an education or childcare setting will have access to a test if they display symptoms of coronavirus, and are required to get tested in this scenario. Where the child tests negative, they can return to school and the fellow household members can end their self-isolation.

You must inform the school if you or your child are going to have a test. You must also inform the school of the results before being given permission to return to school.

**What happens if a student or teacher in school but not in my child’s group becomes ill with COVID-19?**

Providing they have not been in contact with the person showing symptoms and they are not in the same group as them, they may continue to attend school. This is the main reason why we are separating the cohorts of students. We may ask individuals to self-isolate at home as a precautionary measure.

**What if my child or a member of the family or household is showing COVID-19 symptoms?**

Please carefully read the guidance provided by PHE and the NHS guidelines +.

**How will my son/daughter get to school if travelling on public transport?**

The school minibus will be running on its normal route. students using this service are expected to observe social distancing and respect other users.

**What happens if my son/daughter cannot attend school or I do not wish to send them to school?**

Students who are not able to attend school will still have online lessons as before.

Parents/carers who do not send their son/daughter to school **will not** be issued with penalty notices or fined at this time.

**Do students wear school uniform?**

Students are expected to wear their normal uniform. We recognise some students may have outgrown particular items so if they have a note from their parent/carer we will accept them wearing a similar sensible alternative. Please wash uniform regularly.

**How will you ensure social distancing?**

Students and staff will be expected to observe appropriate social distancing in school. We have created systems which mean we believe this will be possible at all times if students behave responsibly. Students will be in the same class for all lessons and staff are attached to one group only. All areas of the school will only be accessed by one group of students.

**What happens at lunchtime?**

For Year 6 and for the key worker students, packed lunches will be provided. Please feel free to send students in with water and snacks but these **must not** be shared.

**How will student use the toilets?**

We aim to operate a system where only one student will be in a toilet block at any time. Hand washing will be encouraged. Toilets will be allocated to each pod to avoid unnecessary movement, minimise cross contamination and aid supervision and cleaning.

**Will PPE be mandatory for staff and/or children?**

The COVID 19: Implementing Protective Measures in Education and Childcare Settings document states that: -

Wearing a face covering or face mask in schools or other education settings is **not** recommended. The majority of staff in education settings will not require PPE beyond what they would normally need for their work, even if they are not always able to maintain a distance of 2 metres from others. PPE is only needed in a very small number of cases.

We are happy to see students and staff in school wearing PPE if they wish but due to the above guidance we will not be providing PPE for students.

**What will happen if a student fails to follow social distancing rules?**

We cannot allow students who are unable to follow the rules to risk the health of others. They will be required to work from home using the online learning resources provided for others.