



Horsforth School

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Headteacher: Dr P C Bell

Our Ref: PCB/TRH

2nd October 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope your family are safe and well and that your children are as happy to be back at school as we all are.

Thank you for your positive messages and support, it may be a turbulent time locally and nationally but our restart has progressed well and due to our precautions and procedures that were put in place prior to our return we have had few confirmed cases of COVID compared to many other schools. I know we still have students self-isolating and I thank you for doing this, please let us know if you need any help or support with remote learning, how you are feeling or in any other way.

We made the decision that for our re-opening in September we would go above and beyond the guidance and as a result we have had to make no changes as a result of the local lockdown. Our procedures and precautions still go further than any other schools I know of.

Dropping off forgotten items

Could I please ask you to only drop off essential and emergency items such as inhalers.. When items are dropped at reception a member of staff needs to then bring them to the student in their bubble and the volume of items being dropped off means these staff are unable to do their main roles.

Parents' Evenings

Until further notice our parents evenings will be remote and we will be using an extension to our current Parents Evening booking system. We will send out further information closer to the times but our planned Parents Evenings, which we aim to run regardless of the situation at the time, are below:

Year 7:	05.11.20 (Settling-in Evening) and 23.06.21 (Full Parents' Evening)
Year 8:	11.02.21
Year 9:	04.03.21
Year 10:	10.12.20
Year 11:	31.03.21
Year 12:	28.01.21
Year 13:	26.11.20

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Key Dates

We would usually have shared our 'Key dates for parents' document but as we are in very uncertain times we will hold off until we are certain we can run events. I aim to update you on any key dates through my Friday letter as soon as they are possible to confirm.

Reports and Progress Reviews

This year, as usual, we will endeavour to keep parents/carers fully informed about their son/daughters/ progress throughout the academic year. Teachers will periodically record data about a students' efforts and achievements in each of their subjects (including SMART targets for improvements where required). The dates of these Progress Reviews can be found below and the data itself can be viewed using the Parent SIMS App.

- 09.11.20
- 11.01.21
- 15.03.21
- 17.05.21

Once a year we will also send a written report home with more detailed feedback about each student. The dates these reports will be sent home for each year group are as follows:

Year 7	18.06.21
Year 8	05.02.21
Year 9	05.02.21
Year 10	23.04.21
Year 11	04.12.20
Year 12	18.06.21
Year 13	23.04.21

We had our remote open evening last night and whilst I would have much rather greeted the nearly 1000 people who would usually come in person I hope it gives a good flavour of the school. Please have a look if you are interested at <https://www.horsforthschool.org/virtualopenevent/> and if anyone who may be looking at schools has any questions please click on our 'Ask us a Question' button and we will be happy to answer them.

I do look forward to the time when we can resume our in-person parents' evenings, information evenings, productions and concerts but in the meantime we will look to use technology to inform and engage with you all and our wider community.

Thank you again for your support and positivity. Things are very busy but in a vibrant and buoyant way. We are all learning, laughing and enjoying being back as a school community.

Yours faithfully

Dr P Bell
Headteacher

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