

Friday 5th March, 2021.



Penketh High School

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are very much looking forward to pupils returning to school next week, I'm sure pupils are looking forward to coming back to school to see their friends and returning to the classroom. We also recognise that there might be some anxiety about returning having been away from school for a number of weeks. This is understandable and we'll be doing everything we can to support their transition back to school.

We began undertaking the process of testing pupils today and Year 11 showed a wonderfully mature attitude across the day, once again demonstrating the calibre of our pupils. Testing continues tomorrow for Year 9 and 10 and pupils have been issued with their appointment times via their school email accounts. Some parents who haven't consented as yet but would like their child to be tested have enquired as to whether or not they can still sign up. We have reopened the consent form and issued the link again today via text message. Pupils in Year 9, 10 and 11 who sign up for testing at school will be invited to be tested upon their immediate arrival to school on Monday and we will provide them with an area to wait 30mins for their results before returning to lessons upon receipt of a negative result.

Whilst Year 9, 10 and 11 are returning to school on Monday we are equally eager to welcome Year 7 and 8 back to school on Wednesday. Pupils in these year groups who have signed up to be tested on Tuesday will receive their appointment times on Monday via their school email accounts.

We circulated information to parents last week and I'm pleased to say that at this point there have been no changes to the guidance issued to schools for operation and so the information we distributed last Friday is still valid. Please see below a link to the parent and pupil information guide updated to reflect the latest guidance;

<https://sway.office.com/CUE009A2D4eZTGLf?ref=Link>

Can I remind parents that pupils will be required to wear full school uniform and children of key workers and vulnerable pupils in Year 7 and 8 who remain in attendance to school on Monday and Tuesday will also be expected to be in full school uniform.

As I highlighted last week, the government are recommending that ***“face coverings should be worn in classrooms or during activities unless social distancing can be maintained. We are taking this additional precautionary measure for a limited time during this period of high coronavirus (COVID-19) prevalence in the community. These measures will be in place until Easter. As with all measures, we will keep it under review and update guidance at that point.”***

For the final four weeks of term until Easter we will therefore be asking pupils to wear face coverings during the majority of their time at school - including during lessons as in most cases 2m distancing can't be adhered to. They will not need to wear these when outside, where they can maintain social distancing or when undertaking PE or other strenuous activity.

Finally, I think it's important to stress that pupils should bring necessary equipment to school as they will not be able to share this with others. Basic requirements for equipment can be found in the pupil and parent information guide referenced above.



PART OF THE CHALLENGE ACADEMY TRUST | NURTURE | CHALLENGE | ACHIEVE

THE CHALLENGE ACADEMY TRUST C/O PRIESTLEY COLLEGE, LOUSHERS LN, WARRINGTON WA4 6RD. COMPANY NUMBER 10689247

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Tel: 01925 722298 Fax: 01925 723812 e-mail: principal@penketh.warrington.sch.uk Website: www.penkethhighschool.co.uk

Principal: Mr J Carlin BA(Hons) NPQH





If you do have any concerns about your child ahead of their return to school please do get in touch with your child's year leader so that we can support them upon their return.

I have attached a copy of a letter sent from the local authority to all parents with regards to attendance for your information.

We've been incredibly impressed with the attitude and dedication of pupils as they've undertaken remote learning during this period, nevertheless we are really looking forward to seeing pupils next week and supporting them to make progress between now and the end of the year.

Yours sincerely,

Mr J Carlin.

Principal.



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Paula Worthington
Director of Education, Early Help and SEND
Families and Wellbeing

Warrington Borough Council
East Annexe
Town Hall
Sankey Street
Warrington
WA1 1UH

March 2021

Dear Parents,

Pupils returning to school in March

Schools are looking forward to welcoming your child back to school in March and have taken every precaution to ensure the school environment is as safe as possible.

Each school will have a clear plan in place to ensure that all pupils continue to receive a high quality education that enables them to thrive and progress.

The government have advised that attendance at school from March 8th will once again become compulsory. The guidance from the autumn term means that the usual rules on school attendance will apply including:

- *Parents duty to secure that their child attends regularly at school where the child is a registered pupil at school or they are of compulsory school age*
- *Schools responsibilities to record and follow up absence*
- *The availability to the local authority to issue sanctions resulting in prosecution for poor school attendance*

A small number of pupils will still be unable to attend school in line with public health advice. In these circumstances absence from school will not be penalised.

We will work closely with parents, schools and other agencies as appropriate to support your child's return to school. If you or your child feels anxious about returning to school please discuss these with school who will work with you to provide reassurance and support to you to ensure your child can return to school. This has been a difficult experience for everyone and we recognise there may be anxieties and worries.

Yours sincerely,

Debbie Parlane

Debbie Parlane
Attendance Team Manager
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