



Archway

25 September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

COVID Update

Our school attendance is at just over 90%, some 5% below the normal figure, so thank you for your patience if your son/daughter is asked to isolate. The school is now asking all visitors to wear a mask upon entry and visits are being kept to an absolute minimum. If you do make a pre-arranged visit, please download the NHS Track and Trace App beforehand and you will be asked to check in using this at reception.

Students are reminded to maintain social distancing when coming to school and leaving. They must also avoid other year groups if at all possible and avoid gathering in large groups. The school has been contacted by members of the public about children congregating in large groups at places such as shops. The best advice is to use the 'rule of 6' when travelling to and from school.

Holidays

The school understands that a small number of families have had holiday dates moved to term time. The same government regulations are still in place for parents wishing to take their children out of school during term time. Please note that Archway would only approve such absences in *exceptional circumstances* and *with notice of at least 2 weeks*. For more advice on this, please visit <https://www.gov.uk/school-attendance-absence>

Coats

Now that the weather has turned cooler, students will be wanting to keep warm. Please remind your son/daughter that if they choose to wrap up, then they should wear a coat without a prominent logo. Hoodies and non-school jumpers are certainly not allowed for Year 7 to 11 students.

Online Post-18 Advice for Sixth Formers

Yesterday, our Head of Sixth Form, Matt Redman, showed our Year 13 students a very useful document which he has put together. This document highlights some interesting, forthcoming online events that will help our Sixth Formers choose which course, university or further training option to take. Parents, please ask your Year 13 son/daughter about this document which also gives a link to further events taking place over the next few weeks.

Headteacher Q&A Session 30th September 5pm to 5:45 pm

Next Wednesday, if you wish to join me for a brief online meeting, I shall be hosting a Q&A session via Microsoft Teams; I will send out a link nearer the time. I shall do all I can to answer questions you may have. It will be a pleasure to talk to you, even if it is only via a screen.

Thank you for taking the time to read this latest letter. I am conscious that the school has been communicating a great deal with you over the first few weeks of term. We appreciate your support.

Yours faithfully

Kieron Smith
Headteacher

