

2nd June 2020



Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you for the messages of support that many of you have been sending to our academies, this is appreciated by all of our staff.

There has been an enormous amount of media attention on the re-opening of schools and we would like to update you on the next steps for Q3 Academies Trust.

As you will be aware, we have been providing on site education for some children, including those of key workers. This has continued alongside the distance learning materials provided for children who are working at home. Our staff have also maintained regular communication with families to ensure the safety and well-being of our children.

Initially, we informed you that there would be a phased return for Year 10 and 12 students on 8th June. This has now moved to Monday 15th June following the latest government advice.

We have worked with trade unions and our staff to prepare a thorough risk assessment in advance of increased numbers of staff and students returning to our academies. We have followed the Department for Education's (DfE) advice and guidance on effective infection control as detailed below:

- *minimising contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend childcare settings, schools or colleges;*
- *cleaning hands more often than usual - wash hands thoroughly for 20 seconds with running water and soap and dry them thoroughly or use alcohol hand rub or sanitiser ensuring that all parts of the hands are covered;*
- *ensuring good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach;*
- *cleaning frequently touched surfaces often using standard products, such as detergents and bleach;*
- *minimising contact and mixing by altering, as much as possible, the environment (such as classroom layout) and timetables (such as staggered break times).*

Each of our academies will provide further details in advance of the 15th June. These will include the timetable, expectations relating to behaviour, business dress, lunch arrangements, travel to and from the academy and other information including drop-off and collection of your children.

We recognise that the reopening of our academies may be challenging for families, our students and staff but please be assured that we will do all that we can to ease the transition back to some form of normality. Our Heads of School and their teams have been constantly reviewing their plans to ensure the best possible provision while maintaining a safe environment for staff and students. The health and well-being of our staff and students is key to all decisions we take and we would value any feedback you have either in advance of reopening or when your children have returned.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Yours sincerely

Dr Caroline Badyal
Chief Executive

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Q3 - Quaerere | 'Seek that which is good, that which is right, that which is true'