



11th November 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

I trust you are well and staying safe during this time of the second national lockdown. I welcome the decision that schools remain open at this time however you will appreciate the situation presents complex challenges for schools. Since the start of this half term we have experienced an increase in confirmed cases amongst both teaching and support staff. This of course makes the day to day management of the school increasingly complex. That said I am very confident in the quality of education that your child receives on a daily basis which is supported through the use of Google Classroom.

So, the main purpose of this letter is to reinforce some key expectations of students at school.

Face Masks

Every student must bring a face mask to school and as we have done since September they must be worn in all communal areas of the school they are only removed when in class or the designated playground zones. To this point we have provided face masks when students arrive without them. This is not sustainable and I ask that you support our school policy and ensure your child comes to school with a face mask.

Hand sanitiser

Every student must bring their own sanitiser to school. It is essential along with face masks. We do have sanitiser points around the school but I want all students to take responsibility for their own sanitising. From Monday 16th November every student will be expected to use their own sanitiser as they come into school and at the start of every lesson. The majority of students already do this very well.

Chewing gum

We are very clear at Langdon Park that chewing gum and also sweets are not allowed in school. Please reinforce this with your child especially with chewing gum as it can end up on the floor and is both a health and safety concern and an act of vandalism. If students do bring gum into school they are placed in Headteacher's detention and you will be notified.

Punctuality

A reminder please that your child must be in school by 8:40am so this means your child needs to leave earlier to ensure they get to their entry gate on time. The gates close at 8:45am and so your child will be recorded as late.

Home Learning

Within this second wave there is a risk that your child may have to be at home and continue with learning remotely. As a school the staff have done brilliantly to move resources to Google Classroom and adapt to new ways of teaching such as live lessons. Of course, nothing can replicate fully being in the classroom. Please ensure your child has logged onto Google Classroom and signed up to the classes. Teachers put resources on there for each lesson. I would also encourage you to go to the school website and under the curriculum tab you will find all the schemes of work for all subjects and included are suggestions of extra activities and reading to complete to support and extend your child's learning.

Despite these extraordinary challenges students and staff at Langdon Park School continue to demonstrate excellence on a daily basis and uphold the values of the 4BEs. I appreciate for you as parents this is a worrying time particularly for those with children in Years 13 and 11. As a parent with two of my children in Year 11 I am acutely aware of how you feel. I would say to you that the staff at the school are working hard and making every provision and opportunity available for your child to ensure they are well-placed and prepared for the exams next summer.

As always, I am very proud to serve you as Head Teacher and the response from our community has been immense. It is only through a unified community that we will get through this situation. Please be reassured that every measure possible is taken in the best interests of keeping all members of the school community safe and happy.

Finally, please note as per the calendar the school will be closed to students on November 27th for a staff training day.

Yours sincerely

Mr N Langham
Headteacher