



Westbourne Avenue
Walker
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE6 4ED

Friday 10th September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been great welcoming students back to school after the summer and meeting our new students properly for the first time.

At the end of last term I provided information on our plans for this term, but explained that they may be subject to change depending on updates to government guidance and information from the local public health team.

Thankfully there was little change to the guidance and we have been able to start the term almost as planned.

Testing:

The first on site testing has taken place for those students whose parents and carers have given consent. The second and final on site test will take place at the start of next week. Following this **all students will be provided with test kits to take home and we would ask that student's test twice weekly.**

Curriculum delivery:

We had planned for subject teachers to begin delivering lessons to students across the school from Monday, but we feel that students will benefit from an additional 2 days based with their pastoral teams. Subject based learning will begin on Wednesday. For further information please see the attached information on the SCP recovery curriculum.

Covid infection control.

As you will be aware schools are no longer using 'bubbles' or minimising contact between groups of students. This allows us to deliver a much wider range of learning experiences and opportunities to our students.

We are very aware of the need to continue to keep everyone safe and control the spread of the virus in school. We are following government guidance:

- Staff and students are continuing to wash their hands and sanitise regularly throughout the school day.
- Communal areas and touch points across the school continue to be cleaned regularly throughout the school day.
- Staff are aware of the need to maintain distance where possible.
- Learning is taking place outdoors where possible and indoor spaces are ventilated.
- **Asking everyone, staff, students and visitors, to wear a face covering in all busy or communal areas.**

To support the wearing of face coverings within school last year, we provided all students with 'snoods' with the SCP logo on. All new students have been provided with a snood to bring home today. Extra snoods are available from school at a cost of £1.

We would appreciate your support in encouraging your child to wear a face covering on transport and in communal areas of the building.

If you have any questions about the information in this letter or any other aspects of school, please get in touch,

Yours sincerely



Karen Hamilton

Head Teacher

SCP recovery curriculum

There has been much discussion in the media about the learning which students have lost during the past year due to disrupted learning. As with all other schools we are aware that the different way we have had to operate and deliver learning to students has had an impact. The most notable impact across the students at SCP has been the lack of access to specialist teachers and access to the different areas of the school. Students have also lost confidence and independence skills, and have not had the opportunity to mix out with their own class or year group.

Change is difficult for all of us and particularly so for many of our students. We are taking a phased approach to our move back to 'normality' to allow our students to recover the confidence and skills they have lost over the past year and to support them to re-discover their relationships with non-pastoral staff and peers they may not have been able to socialise or work with this last year.

Students will continue to be based in their pastoral classroom at the start of the academic year. We will continue to have movement between class bases within a year group. From Week 2 of the autumn term, subject teachers will move around the school, delivering subject based lessons. Students will have the security of remaining in their own class or year group space but will have the chance to develop relationships with a wider group of staff and to have learning delivered by subject specialists.

As the term progresses and students gain confidence, they will begin to move around the school to access learning in subject specialist areas.

This will build throughout the year with our aim being to have all students moving around the school to access subject learning in specialist classrooms in the summer term.

Students will always begin and end the day in their own pastoral room and will continue to be supported by known staff during the school day.

Students in years 7 and 8 will be based within their pastoral classroom with their pastoral staff every afternoon.