

Dear Parent/Carer,

Monday 14 September 2020

We would like to thank you for all of your support during our first few weeks of reopening. We are overwhelmed with how our children have settled and how well they have adapted to our new way of working. The PODs are working extremely well and I would like to thank all the year group POD teams for their hard work and tenacity in creating a strong POD identity for each year group and ensuring that all of our pupils are safe and learning. I cannot express how wonderful it has been to have our school full of children again.

#### Year 10 POD Closure

We have had to overcome the challenge of closing the year 10 POD very early on in our return to school, but they are engaging in a full programme of online learning until they return to school. We will continue to work closely with public health England to ensure that all of the Montsaye Academy community is safe; this remains our priority.

The school has received reports of Year 10 students gathering in the community. The POD was closed to enable students to self-isolate and government self-isolation guidance should be followed at all times.

#### Pupil Absence Guidance

Can I kindly request, that you read all the guidelines we send out as it is of paramount importance in this ever-changing landscape that we are absolutely clear about what the guidance says and what we should do in any given scenario. This is again detailed in the table **overleaf**.

#### Covid Hygiene Guidance

We want to remind our students about safe habits during the pandemic (“hands, face, space”) and urge them to extend these behaviours to all aspects of life, outside of school and weekends. It is essential that you send your child to school with a face mask as we are asking all children to wear them when moving around the corridors and at breaks and lunchtimes. Regular use of hand sanitiser and hand washing is an expectation of all, we have hygiene stations set up in every classroom.

#### Online Safety

Please keep abreast of our online safety information. We recommend you look at the following websites and handouts [UK Safer Internet Centre](#), [Internet Matters](#), [Gaming and social Media](#), and [Online Safety update Sep 2020](#) as they are great guides and provide useful information especially around keeping safe on social media.

#### Site Safety

We of course continue to prioritise children’s safety in the physical world too, and ask that parents who drive their children to and from school, refrain from driving onto site. Following our risk assessment, we need to have as few people as possible come through the gates, so kindly request that you find and agree with your child a safe and considerate spot nearby to drop off/meet. Please do be mindful of our neighbours, keeping drives clear and communicating courteously.

#### Parent Critical Worker Status Survey

The school will shortly be sending out a survey to gather up-to-date information on parent critical worker status again. I very much appreciated the prompt and comprehensive replies we had previously and thank you in advance for your time providing us with this crucial information.

Thank you for all your support.


Yours faithfully



Mrs Gabbi  
Principal

## Pupil Absence Guidance Sep 2020



What to do if...	Action Needed	Return to school when...
...my child has Covid-19 symptoms.	<p><b>Do not come to school</b></p> <p><b>Contact school to inform us</b></p> <p>Self-isolate the whole household</p> <p>Get a test</p> <p><b>Inform the school immediately about the test result</b></p>	...the test comes back negative <b>or</b> a period of 10 days has passed since the symptoms started, and the child feels well.
...my child tests positive for Covid-19.	<p><b>Do not come to school.</b></p> <p><b>Contact school to inform us.</b></p> <p><b>Agree an earliest date for possible return (minimum of 10 days).</b></p> <p>Self-isolate the whole household.</p>	<p>...10 days have passed since symptoms began, even if they still have a cough or loss of taste/smell. <i>(These symptoms can last for several weeks.)</i></p> <p><b>AND</b> the child feels well.</p>
...someone in my household has Covid-19 symptoms.	<p><b>Do not come to school.</b></p> <p><b>Contact school to inform us.</b></p> <p>Self-isolate the whole household.</p> <p>Household member to get a test.</p> <p><b>Inform school immediately about test result.</b></p>	...the test comes back negative.
...someone in my household tests positive for Covid-19.	<p><b>Do not come to school.</b></p> <p><b>Contact school to inform us.</b></p> <p><b>Agree an earliest date for possible return (minimum of 14 days).</b></p> <p>Self-isolate the whole household.</p>	...the child has completed 14 days of isolation.
...NHS test and trace has identified my child as a close contact of somebody with symptoms or confirmed Covid-19.	<p><b>Do not come to school.</b></p> <p><b>Contact school to inform us.</b></p> <p><b>Agree an earliest date for possible return (minimum of 14 days).</b></p>	...the child has completed 14 days of isolation.
...NHS test and trace has identified a household member (other than my child) as a close contact of somebody with symptoms or confirmed Covid-19.	<p><b>The household member must self-isolate for 14 days.</b></p> <p>Child can continue to attend school.</p>	...child can continue to attend school
... a sibling attending another school has been sent home to self-isolate due to their being a positive case in their school.	<p><b>Sibling must self-isolate for 14 days.</b></p> <p>the school's child(ren) can continue to attend.</p>	...child can continue to attend school
... my child has travelled abroad from a country or territory that is NOT on the exempt list of countries.	<p><b>If returning from a destination where quarantine is needed*:</b></p> <p>minimum of 14 days self-isolation for all those who travelled.</p> <p>contact school to inform us you are back in the country and we will agree an earliest date for possible return to school. - Self-isolate the whole household.</p> <p><a href="#">*Foreign, Commonwealth &amp; Development Office (FCDO)</a> – for up to date travel information</p>	...the quarantine period of 14 days has been completed.
... my child has travelled abroad from a country or territory that IS on the exempt list of countries.	<p><b>If returning from a destination where quarantine is NOT needed:</b></p> <p>Check the current <a href="#">Exempt countries and territories list</a> to confirm the country you have travelled from or through is on the exempt list. - Ring school to inform us you have returned to the UK and agree a return date to school.</p>	<p>... you have informed the school of your return to the UK (the school will ask you a few questions about your travel).</p> <div style="text-align: right;">  </div>

## Pupil Absence Guidance Sep 2020



What to do if...	Action Needed	Return to school when...
...I have travelled from a country that requires us to quarantine (but my child didn't travel).	As long as you do not have / have not had symptoms in the last 14 days, your child can continue to attend school.  The person who has travelled <b>MUST NOT</b> leave the house, including to do pick-ups and drop offs ( <i>please contact school if you need support getting your child to school</i> ).	...child can continue to attend school
...we have received medical advice that my child must resume shielding.	<b>Do not come to school.</b> <b>Contact school to inform us.</b> Shield until you are informed that restrictions are lifted and shielding is paused again.	...school inform you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to school again. ...you receive medical advice that your child may return to school.
...my child's POD is closed due to a Covid-19 outbreak in school.	<b>Child must not come to school.</b> Support your child at home with remote education provided by your school. Your child will need to self-isolate for 14 days. <b>Other siblings may continue to attend school.</b>	...school will inform you when the POD will be reopened.
... I am unable to get a test for someone in the household who has symptoms	<b><i>If you are not able to get a test in the first 5 days of having symptoms, your child and anyone they live with must stay at home and self-isolate for 14 days. Anyone in your support bubble must also stay at home.</i></b>	...the child has completed 14 days of isolation.