

September 2020.

Running alongside the school's SEND information report we have looked at how COVID-19 will impact on how we support identified boys across the school.

### **SEND Support September 2020**

#### **What does the SEND Team look like from September 2020?**

Team SEND has extended to accommodate the extensive needs of the new Year 7 cohort. Across all year groups, we have a number of students who require 1:1 support as a legal provision within their EHCPS. Therefore, the team will need to provide support across all year groups, excluding sixth form at this point. This means allocating additional adults to work with year group bubbles in order to support across these year groups. Just like teaching staff, there will be a necessity to cross these bubbles at times to ensure that students are supported as best as we can. Where an TA is based within a bubble, they will support the 1:1 student as a priority. Where additional support staff are available, they will provide extra support as required across the year group bubble. Individual teachers may decide to designate a small group of students within the class bubble to work with the TA in a designated zone. TAs will support SLT to monitor areas of the school during lesson change over, unless they are moving to teach their lesson as per their timetable.

#### **How will a student that receives 1:1 continue to receive this designated support?**

Transmission of Covid-19 is usually through droplets; the mainstay of control measures are minimising contact and thorough hand and respiratory hygiene. When these measures are maintained, and symptomatic persons are excluded, the risk is minimal. Guidance on PPE in schools has changed (August 2020) to state that secondary aged students should wear face masks within communal areas if the local area is placed into lockdown.

Ideally, staff in secondary schools should remain 2 metres distance from students, staying at the front of the class and away from their colleagues where possible. This is not always possible, but adults should do this when circumstances allow.

When working 1:1 with a student, staff will:

**Avoid face to face contact.**

**Sit shoulder to shoulder.**

**Support with a task and then move away. This promotes independent learning as well as minimises time spent within 1 metre of anyone. Staff must not spend more than 15 minutes at any one time with an individual student when you are working next to them.**

It will be the personal choice of staff to wear a transparent visor in this situation. This will allow lip reading and their full face to be viewed for non-verbal communication prompts. Their visor will be cleaned at the end of each class session in this instance. Staff, alongside students, will employ thorough hand washing strategies when leaving the room. First aid, complex needs and care support should be administered as usual. PPE should be used in these situations.

Any students who require personal or intimate care will receive this as needed in line with guidance from external parties. Staff will wear the appropriate PPE at all times.

Placing staff in consistent bubbles and with consistent students, where possible, minimises contact and mixing therefore is important for infection control.

**Some students have access to outside agency support. Will this be allowed?**

National Guidance states that specialists, therapists, clinicians and other support staff for students with SEND should provide interventions as usual. These visitors will sign in as per the safeguarding regulations of the school. Site Manager will be notified at least 24 hours prior to their visit. An onsite health and safety briefing will be given prior to the visitor entering the building. All visitors must adhere to rules and guidelines as set out within this briefing and the school Covid-19 risk assessment. A record of all visitors will be kept to identify potential contacts. These will be held on record for 21 days in line with the school's GDPR policy

**Are clinically vulnerable students expected to return in September?**

Current advice is for those who have previously shielded to obtain medical advice to ensure that an individual risk assessment supports their return to school. All students will be expected to return to school, unless a statutory reason applies. Risk assessment reviewed weekly with SENDCO and Deputy Headteacher.

**Some SEND students may require blended learning due to shielding. What will this look like?**

If students are absent due to Covid-19 linked reasons, students will be supported as per the 'Blended Learning' agreement. SEND students will have access to appropriate and accessible lessons. Online literacy and numeracy interventions will continue. Where a student requires 1:1 support for their cognition and learning difficulties and this is received in school, if they are absent due to Covid-19 linked reasons, we will use reasonable endeavours to put support in place that is reasonable and adjusted.

**Some students have access to a Time Out System. How will this work?**

SEND area is still open for students to access as needed; however pupils are encouraged to stay within their bubbles as much as possible. This time out system is to support SEMH and is separate to the behavioural amended policy. We are aware that some students require movement breaks. This will be guided by the classroom teacher and will happen when it is safe to do so. This will not be during mass movement and should not be out of the year group zone area.

**Some SEND students have access SEND area during break and lunchtime.**

How will they access a quieter environment at this this unstructured time? Break time and lunch times will be staggered according the zones and year group bubbles of the school. At break time, students will be encouraged to practice social skills within their year group bubbles during this short period. They will also be expected to follow strict hand washing procedures. During lunchtimes, each year group bubble will have their designated staggered lunch zone within their bubble. This will allow them to have their lunch and have fresh air. All students will therefore be encouraged to be outside within their year groups. TAs will share these zones between them as a key person for our more vulnerable students. They will provide conversation, familiarity and encouragement. In exceptional

circumstances, where a student requires removal from the zone, the TA will accompany the student to a breakout area within that year group zone where they will sit and read.

**SEND students and medication.**

Some students will need to take their identified prescribed medication during school hours. SEND trained staff will facilitate this as needed in line with external medical guidance.

SEND staff will wear appropriate PPE to administer the medication and ensure the students take the appropriate safety measures.

**How do SEND students access laptops as required?**

Students who require access to a laptop in order to record work or to access blended learning can still access this resource. Laptops can be collected from the SEND area if needed students should keep hold of the same laptop all day. SEND staff will take responsibility to wipe clean the laptop using suitable wipes and to ensure it is fully charged for each day. Students will be asked to wash and sanitizer their hands before collecting their laptop each time.

**How will SEND students be supported to understand the changes in school and the requirement for staying safe?**

Students have access to information and photograph resources on the website. Individual students are working alongside the SEND team and external specialist support. All students will have access to the Recovery Curriculum and will be supported pastorally. Some students will have individual risk assessments in line with government and local authority advice.

**A SEND student requires the lift. How is this done safely?**

Students should only access the lift in extreme medical circumstances. No more than 2 people should be in the lift at the same time. This should be a student and an accompaniment – in the case of complex medical needs, a member of staff. Students with medical conditions should take priority over staff who are travelling to upper floors, unless they have a medical condition which denotes their use.

*Do not stand facing each other. One person should stand with their back to the mirror. The second person should stand closer to the door with their back to the rear of the lift*

**If a SEND student requires the specialist bathroom, will they cross the bubble?**

This has been arranged prior with parents and a key will be made available to these students. This is situated on the ground floor and students must have access to this facility.

**Who do I contact in regards to an SEND student?**

*Mrs Nicola Treanor – SENDCO*