

Re: JHi/LT

10 March 2021

Smithdon High School Mr J Hirst Headteacher Downs Road, Hunstanton Norfolk PE36 5HY Telephone: 01485 534541

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## Dear parents

It has been lovely to see so many of you and your children during our first few days of testing and preparing for the students' return to lessons.

As we are welcoming all the students back to school, it seems timely to remind you of the Government guidelines we are implementing in school for the safety of all our school and local communities:

- Students continue to remain in Year group bubbles throughout the day and for any extra curricular activities
- One-way systems are in place around the site
- Break is staggered for all year groups 15 minutes per year between 10am and 11.15am
- Lunch is staggered into 3 sessions with sessions 1 (Years 7 and 10) and 3 (Years 9 and 11) divided into separate sides of the hall, canteen and field, as well as allocated toilets, to maintain the integrity of the bubbles
- Students released at staggered times by year group at the end of the day and buses loaded by year group to maintain the bubbles for the journey home, as far as is practicable
- Face masks, no alternative face coverings, should be worn at all times, other than PE lessons and when eating, unless exempt (lanyards and badges to be clearly on display)
- Regular hand-washing encouraged and hand-sanitising required at entry to and exit from the site, as well as every lesson/classroom

Norfolk County Council has recommended the following to help make sure schools remain a safe place for everyone with out of school activities, while we will continue to do everything we can in school to keep our children safe and stop the spread of coronavirus:

- Try not to share lifts with children from other families, as cars are small spaces where the virus can spread easily
- Until restrictions ease further, don't mix with other families for parties, meals or sleepovers. Limit your social interactions in line with government regulations
- Encourage your child/young person not to meet up with large groups of friends or congregate in local shops on the way to and from school
- Face coverings must be worn at all times on public transport and school-specific transport (buses, minibuses, taxis, etc), unless exempt
- When walking to and from school, students should remain in either household/family bubbles or year group bubbles









## Wellbeing:

We recognise that for both you and your children, the return to school after the latest lockdown restrictions might be a time of worry and uncertainty. We want to assure you that we understand these feelings, and will be working closely with all our students to listen to their worries and help them articulate and understand them.

We're doing everything we can to make school as safe as possible, and to make the transition to being back in the classroom as easy as possible. There are also lots of great resources out there for you and your child from Norfolk County Council.

If you've got any questions about the actions we're taking in school to keep everyone safe, then please get in touch with the school office. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's wellbeing or mental health, please get in touch with their pastoral manager.

Yours sincerely

Mr J Hirst Headteacher