



Principal: John Dixon

15th July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

### **Arrangements for End of Term and the Full Reopening of The Halley Academy**

I am writing to you to confirm the arrangements for the end of this academic year and to provide you with further information on the full reopening of the academy for the 2020/2021 academic year in September.

This term will end with two staff INSET days on Monday 20th and Tuesday 21st July 2020. We are finishing the timetable on Friday 17th July, therefore students are not required to attend the academy or complete remote learning on these two days.

This week we have also launched Summer Learning Projects for all subjects that will support the learning of students during the break as well as prepare them for their return to full-time schooling in September. These projects will be set on the Google Classroom pages for each subject, can be completed at students' own pace and time during the summer break, and should be submitted on Google Classroom by Tuesday 1st September. We look forward to celebrating the efforts of students in completing these projects at the start of the new academic year. More details about these projects can also be found on the main academy website.

Summer School will begin on Wednesday 22nd July for invited students only and this will finish on Tuesday 4th August. If you have any questions regarding the Summer School, please contact the academy using the [admin@thehalleyacademy.org.uk](mailto:admin@thehalleyacademy.org.uk) email.

The new academic year will begin on Tuesday 1st September for students in Years 7, 11, 12 and 13 and Wednesday 2nd September for all remaining year groups.

### **Guidance on full reopening of The Halley Academy from September 2020**

Following the correspondence sent this week from Mr Beamish regarding the full reopening of LAT Academies from September 2020, I am pleased to include further operational details. We are confident that our plans and procedures are compliant with government guidance, whilst exercising the necessary discretion and good judgement to suit the context of The Halley Academy.

We do not underestimate the scale of the challenge ahead of us, and we do ask for you to support the implementation of the plans that follow. We will, of course, revisit and present these plans to students when they return in September through a detailed induction programme on day one of their return. This information will also be shared on the academy website.

### **Rationale to support reopening for all pupils**

- The prevalence of coronavirus (COVID-19) has decreased.
- NHS Test and Trace system is running.

The Halley Academy

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- Public Health England is clear about the measures that need to be in place to create safer environments within schools/academies.
- Returning to school is vital for students' education and wellbeing - we know that school is a vital point of contact for public health and safeguarding services that are critical to the wellbeing of children and families.
- The risk to children themselves of becoming severely ill from coronavirus is low and there are negative health impacts of being out of school.
- Lower academic achievement also translates into long-term economic costs due to having a less well-qualified workforce. This affects the standard of living that today's students will have over the course of their entire life. For many households, school closures have also affected the parents' ability to work. As the economy begins to recover, we need to remove this barrier so parents and carers can return to work.

### **Essential measures and systems of control to minimise risk**

Below are the systems of controls that we have adopted to address the risks and that we believe will work for the context of The Halley Academy. We are confident that if we all follow the guidance set out here, we will effectively reduce risks in our Academy and create an inherently safer environment. We are proud that despite the challenging circumstances, these plans will enable us to maintain an ambitious, broad and balanced curriculum.

- In order to practice robust hand hygiene, numerous hand sanitising stations have been installed around the Academy building. Students and visitors will be required to sanitise their hands on arrival to the Academy.
- Students will also be asked to bring personal hand sanitiser, with the responsibility to refill falling to the parents/carers. This will be part of the school equipment list. Students will have a routine established where staff ask them to sanitise at the start of every day.
- Enhanced cleaning arrangements, with additional cleaning staff being deployed on site during the Academy day.
- Each classroom will have antibacterial wipes available. Classrooms will be sanitised and cleaned at the end of every day.
- The creation of year 'bubbles' and zoning organisation, reducing contact and maximising distancing between those in the Academy, minimising the potential for contamination.
- All year groups will have clearly defined designated areas for break and lunchtimes within their bubble.
- Students will be able to use the canteen, street kitchen or snack shack depending on the area they have been assigned.
- 'Keep left and keep moving' system will be in place across the entire site internally and externally with students supervised during lesson transitions.
- Promotion of the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach to ensure good respiratory hygiene. Posters will be displayed around the academy building.
- Following DfE advice, extra-curricular provision may be facilitated whilst maintaining our protective measures. Where possible, students will be kept within their 'bubbles', or in small and consistent groups.
- Behaviour policies have been reviewed and will be communicated clearly and consistently, setting clear, reasonable and proportionate expectations of student behaviour. There will be consequences for poor behaviour and deliberately breaking the rules, including those regarding restrictions on movement within the Academy and new hygiene rules. An addendum to our Behaviour Policy will be attached to my August update letter along with a newly revised Home Academy Agreement to be signed by all students and families.

You will receive further correspondence prior to September to clarify the bubble that your son/daughter will be assigned to as well as their 'Primary' teaching room. Please ensure that he/she is aware of this room number when he/she returns in September.

I thank you for your continued support; I wish you all a restful Summer break.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Dixon', with a small flourish at the end.

John Dixon  
**Principal**