

Monday 6 September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Welcome to the new school year

Myself, along with the whole staff team, are all so pleased to be welcoming back all of our pupils this September as well as welcoming all the new starters to our Pitcheroak School family. I am very excited to see all the wonderful learning opportunities that will take place in the weeks and months ahead.

### COVID-19 Risk Assessment

Things will, undoubtedly continue to be a bit different, but we are starting to move back to some sort of normality. I have uploaded the latest whole school risk assessment which you can access below <https://pitcheroak.worcs.sch.uk/statutory-information/covid-19-documents/>

I hope this document makes sense to you but, if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

There is also an outbreak management plan in place which identifies the measures that we may need to put in place if we need to. We will of course follow the government and Public Health England guidance in response to any outbreak of Covid-19 in school. The government categorises an outbreak as “2 positive cases among pupils or staff who are likely to have mixed closely within a 10-day period”.

Our intention will always be to keep the school open to all pupils. However, in exceptional circumstances such as the following, we may need to close classes or key stages. The reasons may include:

- Staff shortages meaning we cannot safely staff classes
- To help manage a COVID-19 outbreak within the school

We may also be directed by authorities to implement some measures, such as the re-introduction of bubbles and mask wearing, or closures in the following circumstances:

- If COVID-19 infection rates in the community are extremely high, and other measures have failed to reduce transmission
- As part of a package of measure responding to a ‘variant of concern’ (VoC)
- To prevent unsustainable pressure on the NHS

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Academisation Consultation

In my letter dated the 12.07.21 I advised that the Governing Body have agreed to consult with stakeholders to join a Multi Academy Trust with The Central Learning Partnership Trust (CLPT). We would like to invite you to join us on **TUESDAY 14<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER at 16.00** to hear our rationale for this decision.

If you have any questions, now or in the coming weeks, please don't hesitate to contact your child's class teacher, or senior leadership team member and we will endeavour to help.

Yours sincerely

S Holden

Headteacher

