

The Compass Academy

PARENT/CARER LEAFLET: Promoting Safety



Edition 1: June 2020

Supporting a safe return to school...



A big ‘welcome back’ to all of our pupils!

First of all, we hope that all families are well and have managed during what has been a difficult and challenging time for many. In response to new guidance, it is hoped that all pupils will be supported in the return back to school in September, 2020. Albeit, school in a ‘different’ form.

Following Guidance

In order to support the safe return back to school for all of our pupils, it is of greatest importance that the following guidance is shared and adhered to by all parties involved in the return back to school.

As always, the safety and well being of our staff and pupils will always remain the priority. In the event that any concerns or problems are encountered, it may be that the plan to return back to school may be revised. Any updates to ‘the plan’ will be communicated to parents/carers.

Finding a new ‘normal’



In order to promote social distancing, pupils will initially be taught within ‘bubbles’ led by their link teacher/tutor. Once pupils are settled back into the routine of school, the normal school timetable will then be adhered to.

A revised curriculum will be in place to support pupils in re engaging with school and re establishing relationships. As much as possible, physical contact between people in school will be prohibited to encourage social distancing

practices.

The school site will be regularly cleaned and all resources used by pupils will be allocated to specific pupils e.g pupils will have their own tray of books/resources.

‘Bubbles’ will be taught in groups of no more than 8 pupils per bubble. Once allocated a bubble, pupils must be encouraged not to interchange between groups.

In addition to communication with parents/carers, expectations of new routines will be shared with pupils upon the return to school. Throughout the school day, gentle reminders will be shared with pupils re: the need to promote social distancing and avoid touching their faces.

Parent/Carer Expectations

Monitor symptoms: Prior to leaving for school, please ask your child if they are fit and well- alternatively, you may want to check your child's temperature. If your child is unwell, please contact the school to seek further advice.



Practise good handwashing: Hand washing facilities will be available for your child throughout the school day, please ensure that your child washes their hands prior to leaving for school and upon the return. Some parents/carers may wish to provide their child with hand sanitiser gel (60% alcohol is recommended). Likewise, some may wish to offer their child an emollient cream to protect your child's skin from hand washing.

Social distancing: Please remind your child, where possible to promote social distancing at all times and not to make physical contact with anyone in school. In the interest of promoting social distancing (1m + distance) and crowd control, it is advised that any visits to the school are made by appointment only. Consideration will then be given to whether or not a meeting can take place via other means e.g. telephone discussion or virtual meeting.

Transport: Where possible, please support your child in avoiding the use of public transport to travel to school. It is advised that if public transport is used, that appropriate PPE should be worn. Please avoid sharing vehicles with others that are not within your household e.g. the offering of lifts.

Uniform: Please ensure that your child wears clean clothing on a daily basis. It will be expected that pupils meet the expectations of the academy uniform policy. If any family requires support in accessing washing/laundry facilities, please do not hesitate in contacting the school. Upon the return from school, it is advised that all clothing items are removed and washed immediately.

Additional items: Avoid encouraging your child to bring additional items into school including: unnecessary bags, food items and drinks.

Symptom management



In the event that your child or any member of the household presents with symptoms, please ensure that you contact the school and seek medical advice.

Advice is available at:

<https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/>.

Pre existing health conditions:

In supporting your child in the return back to school, please ensure that any up to date **medical information** is maintained by the school and that the school has your most up to date **contact details**.

Useful Services	
<p>School Nursing team</p> <p>The school nurse service can provide advice on things like body worries, alcohol, relationships, sexual health, bullying, drugs, smoking, stress, healthy eating and self-harm.</p> <p>Text: 61825</p>	
<p>Kooth</p> <p>Kooth is an online counselling and emotional well-being platform for children and young people.</p> <p>https://www.kooth.com/</p>	
<p>Young Minds</p>	

A website which offers tips/advice for young people in managing your mental health.	
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<https://youngminds.org.uk/>

A closing comment...

The team are very much hoping for a successful, safe and supportive return back to school and see this as an exciting time in being able to welcome back all pupils into school!

The Compass Academy team x x x