



# The Howard School



A Specialist Sports College  
"To Strive and Achieve is to Succeed"

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

I hope that you have had a good half term, despite the challenges of a national lockdown.

I just want to make you aware of some of the changes that have happened over half term and the impact of those changes on our school community.

## 1. Government policy has changed and students need to wear a face covering from Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November, when the whole school returns

Students need to wear a face covering in all communal areas including corridors and the canteen. Government guidance is directing this.

Please can we ask that you ensure your child has a face covering with them at school.

We will provide a disposable mask for students who do not have a mask in the week beginning Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November.

**From Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November:** It is expected that all students will have their own face coverings.

If your child is exempt from wearing a mask, please let the Pastoral Support Team know or the relevant Head of Year. We will be providing lanyards for these students to wear, so that staff are aware of who is excused from having to wear a face mask.

If you are facing financial hardship which means that you cannot purchase a mask please contact the school office and we will provide a material mask.

## 2. Government advice on Coronavirus

Given the new government restrictions in place I just want to reiterate government guidance that:

- If you or your child have any of the main symptoms of coronavirus, book a test as soon as possible and **stay at home until you get the result.**

**The main Symptoms:**

- a high temperature - this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)

[www.thehowardschool.co.uk](http://www.thehowardschool.co.uk)



**Executive Headteacher:** Ms C Reid

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Registered Company Number: 9175427

Derwent Way  
Rainham  
Kent  
ME8 0BX

T: 01634 388765  
F: 01634 388558  
E: [office@thehowardschool.co.uk](mailto:office@thehowardschool.co.uk)



- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste - this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

**You and anyone you live with should stay at home and not have visitors until you get your test result - only leave your home to have a test**

**STUDENTS MUST SELF ISOLATE if they have been in close contact with someone who tests positive for Covid-19, or if anyone in their household develops symptoms of Covid-19 and/or is awaiting a test result.**

Anyone in your support bubble should also stay at home if you have been in close contact with them since your symptoms started or during the 48 hours before they started.

### **3. Clinically Extremely Vulnerable students**

The government guidance until the 2<sup>nd</sup> December is that Clinically Extremely Vulnerable students do not come to school and are offered remote education.

*“Those children whose doctors have confirmed they are still clinically extremely vulnerable are advised not to attend education whilst the national restrictions are in place. Schools will need to make appropriate arrangements to enable them to continue their education at home. Children who live with someone who is clinically extremely vulnerable, but who are not clinically extremely vulnerable themselves, should still attend education. Parents of clinically extremely vulnerable children will be receiving a letter shortly confirming this advice.”*

If your child is extremely clinically vulnerable please can you contact your relevant Head of Year.

### **4. Remote Learning provision for The Howard School and prior notice of year groups that may need to be sent home to do remote learning.**

There are a number of different scenarios that we have planned for, if we need to send students home to access remote learning. **We absolutely do not want to do this, except as a last resort or if directed by the government.** In the case of positive tests, I speak to Public Health England and they provide advice about which students need to self-isolate.

We have staff who are Extremely Critically Vulnerable and new government guidance means they cannot be in school. We also have a number of staff who currently need to self-isolate. This future number of staff who may need to self-isolate is an unknown. Over half term we had our first positive cases in the school community, but because it was during a school holiday, we did not have to send students home.

If we cannot safely open, then for health and safety reasons we may need to send some students home in particular year groups. We will post on our school website if this is the case by 8am daily and send this information out via Arbor to parents/carers. **We are giving parents advance warning that they should check the school website daily, as there may be days when a year group may have remote learning and not be on the school site:**

Week 1 9/11/20 - Year 9

Week 2 16/11/20 - Year 8

Week 3 23/11/20 - Year 7

Week 4 30/11/20 - Year 12

Week 5 7/12/20 - Year 10

Week 6 14/12/20 - Year 13

We will continue to be open to critical workers and vulnerable students in these year groups, as we were from March. Even if the rest of the school or their year group has remote learning from home, these students can stay in school. They will be doing the same work as students at home and we will not be able to teach these students.

	<b>Scenario for students</b>	<b>Provision by The Howard School</b>
1	A student is self-isolating for 2 weeks	a. Work posted in Google Classroom (GC) b. Yr7-9 Knowledge Organiser retrieval practice & revision c. Yr10-13 additional learning platform eg Seneca, Mathswatch d. Subject Reading List available on the school website.
2	Class(es) are self-isolating for 2 weeks	
3	Staff absence results in a year group learning at home for one week or for days in that week.  <u>Termly Rota</u>  Week 1 Year 9  Week 2 Year 8  Week 3 Year 7  Week 4 Year 12  Week 5 Year 10  Week 6 Year 13	
4	A whole year group is self-isolating for 2 weeks	

5	Tier 2 or 3 response (this is directed by the government at this level): year groups attend school on a rota.(1 week in school / 1 week at home) longer than 2 weeks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Normal in school teaching in week 1 which sets the work for the students for their remote learning week. This is posted in GC for week 2.</li> <li>b. Work posted in GC for week 2 (remote learning)</li> <li>c. Yr7-9 Knowledge Organiser retrieval practice &amp; revision</li> <li>d. Yr10-13 additional learning platform eg Seneca, Mathswatch</li> <li>e. Subject Reading List available on the school website.</li> </ul>
6	Full national or local area lockdown for a period of time, 2 weeks or longer. Again this is directed by the government.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Lessons are taught live / pre-recorded as per the school TT using GC</li> <li>b. Yr7-9 Knowledge Organisers retrieval practice &amp; revision</li> <li>c. Yr10-13 additional learning platform eg Seneca, Mathswatch</li> <li>d. Subject Reading List available on the school website.</li> </ul>

Finally, as we enter the colder months and are still required to provide adequate ventilation, students in years 7-11 may wish to wear additional unseen layers under their school uniform. This is because windows will be open to provide extra ventilation.

Thank you all for your continued support, as always we hope that you and your families are safe and well.