

Gawthorpe Lane  
Ossett  
West Yorkshire  
WF5 9BS

Acting Headteacher:  
Mrs R Thompson



Date: 26<sup>th</sup> February 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you and families and loved ones are all keeping safe and well.

As no doubt you will have seen in the news last night, the government has announced that schools are to reopen in fully from March 8th. Highfield has remained open throughout the pandemic. However, due to staffing limitations, our covid risk assessment and some parents/carers wishing for their child to remain at home during lockdown we have been running at a significantly reduced pupil numbers.

I can confirm, that we will be opening fully on March 8th and will be returning to our full September timetable. We would therefore ask you to prepare to send your child back to attend full time from March 8th if they are currently at home accessing remote and virtual learning.

This will mean that we will no longer run-in key stage bubbles, rather the whole school will be one bubble in order to be able to deliver our full offer to the students. The exceptions to this is that we will not yet be running lunch time clubs or going off site until further notice. We are hopeful as the governments phased plan rolls out that we will be able to see the reinstatement of visits later in the summer term.

We will not be running lunch clubs in order to facilitate lateral flow testing of staff. We would also like to ask if you wish your child to have the lateral flow tests twice a week? The test has to be done independently, but we have many social stories and symbol support visuals in order to support teaching students how to conduct the test on themselves. Please can we ask that if you want your child to have the testing from March 8th that you contact admin by Admin Dojo or Admin@highfield.wakefield.sch.uk to inform us. This will help support us to plan this in.

When our students returned in September, they were an outstanding model of resilience and were glad to be back with their peers and friends. We hope this will be the same this time round but understand that some may be rather anxious. If there is any support, you would like or you have any questions, please contact your child's class teacher in the first instance.

The staff and I will be delighted to see all the students back in and we have really missed them all.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support and understanding during the pandemic.

Mrs Rebecca Thompson

Acting Headteacher



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