

17 July 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Assalaam-alaikum/Peace be with you.

I hope you are well inshaAllah (God willing). As we reach the end of term I would like to pass on some information regarding September and the new term. Firstly, I wish to take this opportunity to thank you again for all the support you have given your children to enable them to engage with the remote learning. Most pupils have engaged well with the learning, and we are aware of some of the difficulties they have had to overcome. The term is now coming to an end, and the school will be closed to all pupils over the summer break.

As you will be aware, the Government has released some guidance for schools to enable us to plan for a September start which will be for all pupils across the year groups. I wish to reassure you that the safety of pupils and staff will be the forefront of all planning. Outlined in this letter are some of the key changes that you and your daughter need to be aware of.

September Start Dates

School will reopen to pupils on Thursday 3rd September. However, due to the changes being put in place, we may have to consider a staggered start to the year. Further details will be sent out over the summer break.

Attendance and Punctuality

It is now compulsory for all pupils to return to school in September. Where your daughter remains critically or highly vulnerable as a result of being in a high risk group, please contact their Student Support Officer and we will discuss this further with you. We will be recording absence in the usual way from September onwards and look forward to welcoming all pupils back into lessons at this time.

Travel to School

The Government advice is that pupils should, where possible, travel to school on foot. Where public transport or school buses are used, pupils must wear a face mask and sit in allocated places if applicable. On arrival at school, face masks are to be removed and placed safely in bags before entering the school building. The school buses will be running as previous routes – please update passes in the usual way through Metro. If your daughter is travelling to school via car, can we ask that she exits the car away from the school gate. Parents must not come onto the school site when dropping or picking up pupils.

The School Day

To help facilitate the changes that are needed to our normal way of working we may have to make adjustments to the school day and week. This may mean that the timings of school days have to be adjusted. We will confirm this as soon as we are in a position to do so. I appreciate that if this does happen, it will be a sizeable change but I'm sure you can understand that in order to meet the requirements of the new guidance, we, as most other schools, are having to look at alterations without losing crucial teaching time.

Schools have been asked to keep pupils, who are at school, in Year group 'bubbles'; this means that as an academy we should plan to keep pupils from mixing with others outside their year group. We have incorporated this into our re-opening plans and we will write to you again with further information regarding arrangements for each year group. Break-times and lunchtimes will also be operated in separate Year bubbles and pupils are encouraged to bring a packed lunch from home. From September, there will be a limited menu available to students who wish to purchase a school meal. Arrangements for Free-School Meals will be in place as usual. In line with the guidance

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expectations around pupils' movement around the school site will also be adapted. All new procedures will be clearly explained to pupils as part of the induction sessions. It is important to stress that pupils should arrive to school with their own equipment for lessons as pupils should not be sharing equipment with each other.

It is also important that the return to school recognises that pupils will have had a wide range of experiences during the period of lockdown, and as individuals, will have responded in varying ways. Staff at Feversham Academy will be working to support pupils both academically and pastorally to ensure that we deal with any gaps in learning that will inevitably exist after such a long period of remote learning.

Yr 13 and Yr 11 Results

The Yr13 and Yr11 results are due to be released on Thursday 13th August (Year 13) and Thursday 20th August (Year 11). If the situation remains as it is currently around Covid-19 we plan to invite pupils into school to collect results. Details of how this will happen will be sent out in due course. Staff will be available at school on both days to advise pupils about next steps and offer any necessary support.

Uniform

Please order the new uniform in good time for the start of term. Details of how and what to order were sent to you a few weeks ago. A copy of the information can be found on the website. If there are any issues with supply please contact the school for further guidance.

Further Guidance

We will update you over the summer break with further details as they are confirmed. This will include details of what has been put in place, and expectations for pupils and parents will be clearly laid out.

I look forward to seeing all the pupils in school in September insha'Allah (God willing) and would like to take this opportunity to thank you once again for all your support, wish you all a good holiday and request that you remember the school and all who work and learn within it in your humble duas (prayers).

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