

Social Arts for Education
An Independent Special School for Children
aged 11-18
Charity number 1150485
DfE Registration number 203/6006

Chair of Proprietorial Body Mr L Riviere
Headteacher Ms A Leaver
Deputy Headteacher Miss R McWeeney

253 Eltham High Street
London
SE9 1TY



Dear parents/carers,

26th February 2021

Re: Coronavirus update – return to face-to-face schooling 8th March 2021

In line with the Department for Education's recent statement regarding the reopening of schools, we will be returning to face-to-face onsite learning from 8th March 2021.

As you will be aware, the current coronavirus situation is still rather different from that last September, in that we are still under national lockdown, with relatively high rates of infection in the community and cases on the rise in some areas.

In response to the situation as it stands, therefore, and in line with the most recent guidelines issued by the Government, we will be putting in place additional measures to ensure that we can keep everyone as safe as possible on our return. These measures will include the following:

- Alterations to the timetable, in order that start and finish times can be staggered, and overall occupancy levels within the building reduced across the day.
- The wearing of face masks at all times, unless in case of exemption - we will also be offering OT for those who cannot wear masks due to their sensory profile.
- Lateral flow testing. We will not be delaying our return in order to offer this testing.
- A temperature check at the door for anyone who does not wish to consent to a lateral flow test.
- Lunch breaks to be taken outdoors in open areas of the park (unless in the case of inclement weather) this will allow us to thoroughly ventilate and clean the centre during the day.
- Increased handwashing and cleaning, and social distancing of 2m wherever possible within the building.

“Allowing Children to Learn in a Safe and Understanding Environment”

Website: <http://www.safeschoolbexley.co.uk> Email: info@safeschoolbexley.co.uk Telephone: 020 8850 3286

Registered company address: 20 Greenwood Close, Sidcup, DA15 9AD

Chair of Proprietorial Body, Mr LaReo Riviere



- Nothing other than that which is absolutely necessary should be brought into the building. Children must have their own equipment for lessons. Children who routinely bring in stuffed toys or other comforters from home will still be able to do so, however we would ask that they ensure these remain either on their desk or in their bag, and are not shared with others.

Any timetable changes will not reduce the amount of lessons your children attend, though English lessons, as they are delivered remotely as standard, will continue to be studied at home for those in higher level groups. All other lessons will be on site. Adjusted timetables will be issued early next week. We have made every effort to minimise the disruption to our pupils and their families with these changes, however, as reducing contact with others is the primary and most effective control against this virus, it was necessary to make the adjustments.

Planned 1:1 sessions and outreach will now be taking place face-to-face, and external specialists such as our SALT will be coming back on site. If your child receives outreach and you are at all concerned about the safety of allowing a member of our staff into your home, please contact me directly, and I can talk you through the risk mitigations we have put in place.

As was the case prior to this current lockdown, anyone who either has symptoms of Covid-19, or has a household member with symptoms of Covid-19 (which include a new, persistent cough, a high temperature and a change to sense of smell and taste), must not come on site, and must self isolate in accordance with Government guidance, pending the results of a test from the person with symptoms. Pupils who are self-isolating but well enough to work will have remote access to all the same work as their peers.

I have attached a consent form for testing to the end of this letter - if anyone has not yet returned a copy of this form to me, please could you do so at the earliest opportunity. Those who have given consent will be tested 3 times during the first week back, and thereafter once at home. Testing is not mandatory, however we would hope that as many of our pupils as possible engage with the programme. The testing will no longer be used for close contacts of confirmed cases - anyone in this category will have to self-isolate.

Finally, I'd like to thank you all for your support through what has been a very trying time for all, and to recognise the massive efforts made by your amazing young people, who have made us all very proud with the great resilience and determination they have shown in this situation.

As ever, if you have any questions or concerns about any of the above, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Warm regards,



Ruth McWeeney, Deputy Headteacher

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Consent form for administration of lateral flow COVID-19 tests.



Parents and carers, please complete this form on behalf of your child.
Children can also countersign the form at the bottom should they wish to do so.

Child's name: _____

Child's age: _____

Name of person completing form: _____

Relationship to child: _____

Do you have parental responsibility for this child? Yes No

I consent to my child **self-administering** a COVID-19 swab test at SAFE.

I consent to my child being tested for COVID-19 at SAFE, however, **they will need support to take the test.**

I do not consent to my child being tested for COVID-19 at SAFE.

Signed (parent): _____

Date: _____

Signed (child or young person): _____

Date: _____

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