

24<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Following the Prime Minister's announcement on Monday, I can confirm that the academy is planning to reopen to all children on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March. Over the next week and a half, we will continue to deliver onsite provision for the children of critical workers and for vulnerable children. Our remote learning provision will continue for all other pupils.

Throughout this period, we will make preparations for the wider reopening. We will work carefully through the government guidance to ensure that all controls are in place in order to ensure a safe environment for all.

As we get closer to the 8<sup>th</sup> March, we will write to you again to communicate the final details of your child's return. This will include arrangements for staggered start times and the onsite controls that will be in place in order to continue to promote social distancing, particularly at the beginning and end of the school day. Once the academy reopens on the 8<sup>th</sup> March, we will continue to manage the school in class-based bubbles. This will ensure that we are able to limit how many contacts each child has and, in the event of a positive case, will enable us to only have to instruct a smaller number of pupils to self-isolate. Most of our staff are engaging in the weekly LFD testing, which has been made available to all adults working in school. This is a proactive measure which allows us to identify positive cases within asymptomatic adults and respond accordingly.

Much of your child's provision will remain unchanged from that experienced at the end of 2020. Any changes in light of revised government guidance will be communicated to you shortly.

We will continue to offer hot school meals but are now able to accommodate children who wish to mix both school lunches and sandwiches. If you would like to change your child's school lunch provision, please let us know no later than next Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March. Could you do this by emailing Mrs Knight in the office on [tracey.knight@bowlinggreenacademy.org.uk](mailto:tracey.knight@bowlinggreenacademy.org.uk). We do ask that children stick to a regular pattern, e.g. packed lunches only on a Friday and that you give us sufficient notice of one week should you wish to change.

The wider reopening of schools is a positive step forward in the country's response to COVID 19. Once reopen, all children (with the exception of those instructed to shield or self-isolate) will be expected to attend. As a result, our live online provision will not be provided in the way that it has been during the closure period.

I am sure that you will appreciate that we now have to work through our planning and the revised guidance. I will write to you again as we approach the reopening date.

*Kind regards,*

*A M Deighton*

Mrs Allison Deighton

(Acting Headteacher)