

16th October 2020

Dear parent/carer,

Firstly, can I thank you for your support this half term in these unprecedented times. We have been very impressed with the positive way our students and staff have embraced returning to school. In the main, the students have been superb in adhering to the guidance around year group bubbles, handwashing and different arrangements for break and lunchtimes and movement around school. Please can I remind you about our face covering protocol; students should be in the possession of an appropriate face covering at all times and the responsibility to provide a face covering rests with the individual student. We respectfully ask that students wear their face coverings on corridors and in communal areas as our staff do in order to protect each other. Please also remind your child that face coverings are mandatory on school and public transport.

I would also like to update you regarding our policies and procedures in line with our current Covid-19 operational plans. We are in the process of adapting our plans to ensure that there is continuity of education for all year groups in line with the Government's tiers of restrictions for educational settings. The tiers are outlined in the table below. More detail can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/containing-and-managing-local-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreaks/covid-19-contain-framework-a-guide-for-local-decision-makers#annex-3-tiers-of-national-restriction>

Please note that these tiers for school are not the same as the current three-tier system of regional Covid-19 restrictions in England.

Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4
<p>All educational settings should remain open and continue to allow all students to attend with no restrictions in place.</p> <p>This is the current situation at Easingwold.</p>	<p>Secondary schools will move to a rota model combining on site provision combined with remote education. It is likely that we would move to a two week on, two weeks off rota system for all or some year groups.</p> <p>In Tier 2, school would allow full-time attendance on site to vulnerable students and the children of critical workers. These students would remain in a distinct bubble and would not leave that bubble when their own year group is in school.</p>	<p>Secondary schools will remain open for vulnerable students and the children of key workers and children from selected year groups only.</p> <p>The Department for Education will identify the year groups that can attend school. All other learning would be through remote education.</p>	<p>Secondary schools will only remain open for vulnerable students and the children of key workers. All other students should not attend school and will have access to remote learning.</p>

Promotion up the Tiers of restrictions may not be linear. Schools may be instructed to move from Tier 1 straight to Tier 3 or 4 depending on the local context. Similarly, schools could also be moved from Tier 4 to Tier 2 without the need for Tier 3.

Please be assured that we are working hard at ensuring our plans for any Tier restrictions that are placed on us at Easingwold and will of course communicate these with you as soon as it becomes necessary to do so. We are of course very hopeful that we can remain at Tier 1 for as long as possible and hope that our stringent measures and protocols at school will enable this to happen.

In order to plan for any tier restrictions we need to know which children would need full time provision as you, their parent, are a critical worker. Please be aware that should we be placed in this situation, we would create a bubble of students who require full-time provision and your child could then not go into their year group when they are in school. I hope you understand the reason for this is to reduce the mixing of bubbles and to keep students and staff as safe as we can. If you are a critical worker and would require your child to be in school full-time then please complete the google form attached by Tuesday 20th October 2020.

You may find this link helpful if you are unsure if you are a critical worker:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

As always, please do contact us if you have any additional queries at enquiries@outwood.easingwold.com

Thank you for your continued support and we hope that you and your families stay safe and well.

Yours faithfully



Miss Laura Eddery

Principal