



Headteacher: Miss H. Duggan BA (HONS) NPQH

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Dear Parents/ Carers,

Firstly, and more than anything, we are delighted to be welcoming all of our students back to school and be offering them their full curriculum.

Fazakerley High School may look and feel different for students this year, not only due to the measures that we have put in place to stay safe during COVID 19 but also due to the changes that we have made to improve the quality of Education that we provide for all of our students. I wanted to reassure parents and carers that we have put a number of measures in place to ensure that we keep as safe as possible during this difficult time, which I outline at the end of this letter.

We have a number of teachers who join us this year, bringing significant experience, talent and enthusiasm to the staff team. May I introduce..

- Mrs Singleton – Pastoral Deputy Headteacher
- Miss Robbin - Assistant Headteacher / PPL Year 7
- Miss Warrior – SENDCO
- Mr Anderton – Science/Maths Teacher
- Mr Birch – Performing Arts Teacher
- Miss Hughes – Performing Arts Teacher
- Miss Littler – English Teacher
- Mr McKean – Reading / Alternative Provision Teacher
- Miss Moore – History Teacher
- Miss Sandland – Geography Teacher

In addition we have a number of teaching assistants who are joining our support team

- Ms Cave
- Ms Griffiths
- Mr Harding
- Ms Hughes
- Ms Nelson
- Ms Pybis
- Mr Sygrove

It was lovely to welcome back our Year 11 students to collect their GCSE results in August. A significant number of our students have progressed to study A Levels at local sixth form colleges and schools, but we also this year have many students moving onto to study vocational studies at

colleges and some who have also taken up apprenticeships. We are very proud of what our students have achieved and wish them every success for their future.

It is likely that our current Year 11 students may also experience some modifications to their course, as yet we are unclear how this will be. Some possibilities may include changes to the examined content, elements of centre assessed grading (CAG) being used for grading purposes or delays to the examination series. We are keeping in close contact with the awarding bodies and will ensure that we share information with you as soon as we have it.

Please keep an eye on our Twitter feed and our website. We will be updating it regularly with key information and using it as a platform to celebrate some of the work that is going on in school.

Finally, we have been informed that the Regional Schools Commissioner has assigned Dixons Academy Trust to work with us as we begin our conversation around Academy conversion. Dixons is an 'outstanding' Academy Trust, has an excellent reputation in Yorkshire and is one of the highest performing academy chains in the UK. This is the start of a long process called 'due diligence' and consultation which will establish if Dixons will be an appropriate sponsor for Fazakerley High School. We have not met with the Dixons team as yet as the selection process was undertaken by the Regional Schools Commissioner during our Summer Break, so we intend to have an introductory meeting with the Dixons team in the coming weeks. I will keep you informed as the process progresses.

Stay Safe!

Heather Duggan
Headteacher

Our 'Covid School- the new normal!'

Please find below some an outline of some of the changes that are in place in order to keep students and staff safe in school. Our OVERIDING motivation in the plans that we have in place is to keep our students and staff safe. The risk assessment on the school website goes into a lot of detail about the changes we have made to ensure that we keep both students and staff safe, but I wanted to summarise for you the main areas:

- Year groups have been allocated designated areas of the school for teaching, recreation and lunch with separate entrances.
- To reduce the numbers arriving and leaving school at the same time we are have staggered the start and finish time of the day.
 - Key Stage 3 start (8.45am) 15 minutes earlier than students in Key Stage 4 (9am)
 - Key Stage 4 finish (3pm) 15 minutes later than Key Stage 3 (2.45pm)
- Year groups won't mix in school
- Teachers will pick their classes up from their 'line up' area at the start of the day, after break, lunch and at the end of the day and will maintain 2 metre distance at all times
- Staff and students will wear masks in communal areas around school apart from in the classrooms

- Students with medical or special needs will be exempt from mask wearing – parents should email schooloffice@fazakerleyhigh.org to let us know why this is the case.
- Lunch should either be a packed lunch or a grab bag (which students can order during registration).
- Lunches are also staggered to keep year groups separate.
- Only year 10 and 11 will be able to access specialist areas for practical subjects (e.g. Art, Science, Technology), which will be subject to careful cleaning after use.
- Students will be asked to sanitise hands every time they enter a room.
- Students/staff with Covid symptoms will not be allowed in school.
- Where cases are confirmed, all students who have been in close contact will need to self-isolate and be tested for the specified period.
- The PE curriculum has been adapted so that lessons do not require students to get changed, except into trainers.

Uniform - Government guidelines state that uniforms do not need to be cleaned any more often or any differently than would normally be the case due to COVID-19. Given the amount of time out of school, it is also important that all students meet our high standards with regards jewellery, make-up, false nails and haircuts etc. Full details can also be found on the website regarding our high uniform expectations.

Handwashing & Hygiene - In addition to the washing facilities in the toilets, the school has sanitizer stations at the entrance to all classrooms, year group bases and all communal areas. Classrooms have paper towels and cleaning spray on the teacher's desk for incoming teachers to clean their workspace if needed. Cleaning staff are cleaning toilets and shared areas throughout the day. Staff PPE grab bags are available from Student Services should they be needed for closer contact with students for First Aid or other medical reasons.

Track and Trace - Access to school for both visitors and parents will be by **appointment only**. Please do not arrive without a scheduled appointment so that we can limit the number of people entering the premises. If you are attending for an appointment we will be requiring you to completed 'track and trace' information, in line with Public Health England expectations. Appointments can be made by emailing schooloffice@fazakerleyhighschool.org or calling (0151) 524 4530 and explaining the reason for the appointment. We will aim to ensure that appointments are made within 48 hours of the request at a mutually convenient time.

Movement around School General Guidance

Students have been assigned to a Year Group Bubble and whilst in school will remain separated from other Year Group bubbles. Each bubble has been allocated a suite of dedicated classrooms for use by that Year group bubble only. Class groups have been allocated within each Year Group Bubble. Break and lunch will be taken in a designated area in school and within the Year Group Bubble

Each class has been allocated a general base.

- For Year 7-9, all of their lessons and learning will take place in this one classroom, with the exception of physical education sessions.
- Year 10 and 11 students will continue to study their options. To accommodate this, Year 10 and 11 students will move from their classroom base to a different classroom if this is a specialist area (e.g Art).

All classrooms are laid out in rows and students are front facing. Students are expected to line up as directed by staff and move around the school site in single file, quietly, observing the two-metre social distancing guidelines from staff. Students have been safely inducted in these routines during their first day in school. All years will have split break and lunch which means that year groups do not mix. **Students must not cross over the bubble. It will be considered a serious offence if a student deliberately breaks into a bubble.**

Delivering the Curriculum General Principles

- All of our students will receive the full breadth of subjects with their timetabled teacher.
- We will endeavour to provide a rich and engaging curriculum, despite the restrictions.
- We are mindful that our students will be coming to us with a wide variety of experiences during lockdown
- We will be working with our children whatever their starting point to support them to get 'up to speed' over the next few weeks.
- We are mindful that lockdown has had varying degrees of difficulty and we will support our children with compassion and understanding, whilst also instilling in them a renewed sense of routine and high challenge
- Because teachers will be moving between classrooms, there will be less reliance on text books and exercise books. Should classes use books, students are required to carry these.
- Students are responsible to bring their own equipment to school and be responsible for the safe keeping of their exercise books / student planner.
- Students will be regularly assessed in much the same way as usual using a range of in class assessment practices.

Pastoral Support and Wellbeing- After such an extensive amount of time out of school, successful student reintegration will depend on strong, supportive relationships and effective routines. Although we have had to change our school day, all years will continue to have a daily registration to ensure all students receive the pastoral care and support needed for a successful return to school. Many of our students will be anxious about returning to school and we understand that some students are worried about the amount of remote learning work they might have missed. We also know the challenges and sadness that some of our students will have had to endure during the period away from school. In order to ensure that we can provide the support our students need, our mentor/support teams are available to each Year Group Bubble to provide assistance and to arrange additional help where needed. All students have a teacher allocated as their Form Tutor to ensure that every student has daily contact with a member of staff who is there to support their wellbeing.

- Please could parents contact the school directly with any concerns that they might have regarding any anxiety their son/daughter might have related to returning to school and a member of the pastoral support team will discuss any additional support that might be need to be put in place. Email using schooloffice@fazakerleyhigh.org or telephone the school on 0151 524 4530

Attendance and Punctuality -The government expects every student (with the exception of those having to self-isolate) to attend school from September. A copy of our Attendance Policy can be found on the school's website. In order to effectively maintain the Year Group Bubbles which have been created to keep students safe, it is vital that all students arrive on time to school, thereby avoiding contact with other year groups and classes.

Mobile Phones - The policy for mobile phones hasn't changed. Phones should be turned off during school hours and must remain turned off during break and lunchtime. Students seen with their phone will have it confiscated and parents will be asked to collect it after school.

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Name of Student.....

Form.....

Name of parent/guardian..... Signed.....

To be returned to form tutors by Thursday 10th September 2020

