



# Phoenix St Peter Academy



Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Just ahead of the weekend, I wanted to provide an update for you.

There will be no live lessons on **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> and Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March**. Work will be provided for those children still learning at home, but I have asked that all staff are in school to help set up for the full return of all children to school the following Monday.

Children of Primary Age **do not** have to wear face coverings, but I ask you all do when dropping off or collecting your children. I guess we are all accustomed to this now. Try to socially distance on the playground and avoid gathering in small groups please and follow the one-way system marked by the silver line. I know you know this, but I am politely reminding you, that's all. Also, please do not turn up at school unannounced. If you need an appointment, a socially distanced one can be arranged on site. We would however, in the short term, prefer phone calls or Zoom. To be honest, I am looking forward to having meetings the old-fashioned way, talking face to face but that is still a few weeks away yet. I'll be fine when I don't have to have Zoom Meetings.

All children entitled to free school meals will continue to receive that offer, nothing has changed there. I will be keeping a close eye on attendance. Children have been subject to so much disruption, it is critical they attend school each day unless they feel unwell or must self-isolate, having been in contact with someone testing positive. If children are in contact with a person displaying symptoms, it is recommended a test is booked.

Children need to come back in school uniform but do not over wash it, there is no need. They will also handwash often and continue to practice good hand hygiene as a part of everyday life, doing so after they arrive, at breaktimes then before and after eating.

We will be able to teach remotely if a bubble is required to close, but like me, if we are sensible, that should not have to happen. I hope not.

There is much guidance from the DfE (Department for Education) and many things are still not allowed, such as trips and visits, school performances and assemblies. Many schools have held Zoom or Teams assemblies, even You Tube, so I will explore ways to do that.

If any staff member receives a Shielding Letter, as they may be deemed CEV (Clinically Extremely Vulnerable), we will make adjustments that ensure your child can still attend school. Any CEV staff, lawfully, are not allowed to come into school but that will not affect your child; they will be coming back to the school setting.

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Some children received laptops from school, which we in turn received from the Academy Trust as part of their DfE batch of devices. These must be returned to school as they are classed as a 'public asset.' Once back in school, we will clean them and have them ready for use here, as opposed sitting unused.

We will take Breakfast Club bookings from Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March and Mrs Gillings will assist you with that. You can book via Arbor but if you would rather speak to the office, do so from Tuesday please. We do not propose to resume any After-School Clubs just yet. I want to reintroduce these after the Easter Break.

The plan is simple and that is to have a happy three weeks from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March until Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March. At that time, there follows a two-week Easter Holiday then hopefully a gradual, then more swift return to normality and a great Summer Term. At the time of the Easter Break we will review what went well and what needs to be improved for the Summer Term alongside updated guidance from the DfE, if there is any.

There will be more from me next week when I will confirm the timings for the start and end of the school day. Much will probably be the same as before but just give me a bit more time and I will write again, probably on Tuesday with the plan being to send out a visual guide and individual family letters, again, in the way you had before. To keep things super simple, we are not proposing to make many, if any, changes to the staggered starts and maintain them in the way you all adjusted to earlier in the school year.

We are available to discuss any anxieties or concerns you may have. There is no issue that would be deemed small or trivial, everything is important, and you will be listened to, that is our duty and we are happy to engage in such conversations.

I will sign off for now as there's quite a lot of information for you to digest and will be back in touch on Tuesday next week.

Regards,

*Rich Roberts*

Rich Roberts  
Interim Headteacher