



# The Woodlands Academy

Woodlands Drive

Scarborough

YO12 6QN

Tel: 01723 373260 Fax: 01723 371715

E-mail: [admin@woodlands.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:admin@woodlands.n-yorks.sch.uk)

[www.woodlands.n-yorks.sch.uk](http://www.woodlands.n-yorks.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs M Hockham

5 March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

As you are aware school is fully reopen from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March and we will be welcoming **ALL** students back unless you have received a shielding letter for your child as they are deemed extremely clinically vulnerable. If your child does have a current shielding letter please can you send a copy to school for our records and to update the DfE.

I can now confirm that **NO** covid testing will take place in school due to the Government announcement on Wednesday, all staff and secondary aged students in special schools will be issued with home testing kits. Therefore, if you have contacted school to provide consent for covid testing for your child, you will receive home testing kits early next week. The expectation from the Government is that secondary aged students in special schools must be tested by parents/carers for the first three tests and then following this, if the young person is able and willing to self administer the test they can. School is requesting that any positive results are reported to school as well as the NHS trace and track website as soon as possible and that the young person self isolates whilst requesting a PCR covid test through the NHS website (instructions are provided with the test kits). As mentioned previously the tests are not compulsory and **NO** child will be excluded from attending school because they are unable to take the test.

We will continue to encourage social distancing where we can, encourage good hand hygiene and ask students to sanitise when they arrive in school. School will be well ventilated and breaks and lunches staggered to reduce the number of children interacting in the hall and outside at any one time. Children will be allowed to wear face masks whilst in school but this is not compulsory.

Student drop off and pick up times/routines will currently remain the same and under review. We have been told that all dedicated transport will be in place. The updated guidance for transport can be found using this link <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/transport-to-school-and-other-places-of-education-autumn-term-2020>

Lunchtime organisation will be as follows:

Squirrels, Beech and Hedgehogs will continue to eat in their areas at their usual designated time and access the quad for breaks.

Magpies, Badgers, Owls, Foxes, Kingfishers and Kestrels classes will eat their lunch at 12pm in the hall and access the outside areas at 12.30

Robins, Willow, Oak, Elm and Wrens will access the outside areas at 12pm and eat in the hall at 12.30



We will be adapting our curriculum offer to include 'Feel Good Fridays', this will involve Fridays teaching and learning to be more creative, imaginative and fun and enrich our students by providing new opportunities to explore and investigate. Our focus will be in supporting the social interaction and communication between students, as well as supporting their well being and mental health. Your Child's Class lead will be in touch with more information and a plan of activities in the future.

Don't forget there is an opportunity for parents/carers to access **FREE** online psychological first aid training <https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/psychological-first-aid-for-children-and-young-people>, this takes about three hours to complete but doesn't all have to be done in one go.

Thank you for your support, we look forward to welcoming all the students back on Monday, any questions or suggestions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Many thanks

*M Hockham*

Michelle Hockham  
Headteacher