8th July, 2020

Dearest Parents/Carers,

Following guidance from the Government, we are delighted to be able to invite our Lower School students into the academy to meet their Form Tutor ready for their return in September.

This follows our recent re-introduction of our current Year 10 into the academy which was a tremendous success.

Our Lower School students are therefore invited into the academy over a three-day period of:

- Wednesday 15th July: current Year 7 students
- Thursday 16th July: current Year 8 students
- Friday 17th July: current Year 9 students.

However, if your child has specific health vulnerabilities, they should not come into school. Further details are available here.

During this time, we will speak with students for 30 minutes about their wellbeing and how they have been getting on at home with their learning. All students will be sent a letter with the date and time they should attend their meeting. It is important that students arrive to the academy at the allocated time and not before.

Students will meet their Form Tutor in a large space which clearly observes government guidelines regarding social distancing.

It is important that the following guidelines are adhered to during phase one of our opening:

1. Students arrive to their appointment on time. They are to report to the entrance by the Caretaker’s House on the Golden Hillock Road.
2. This meeting is for students only; parents and carers are not invited.
3. Students must stay at least 1.5 metres apart from each other and staff. They must use the signage and floor markers to help them do this.
4. Students must wear full school uniform.
5. Students must not bring their school bag or any other equipment with them.
6. When students enter the building, they must walk directly to the main hall as directed by the teacher. They must not go into any other room or touch things unnecessarily.

Herminder K Channa JP FCCT - Principal
Ark Boulton Academy | Birmingham | B11 2QG
T: +44 (0)121 773 8156
E: info@arkboultonacademy.org
W: www.arkboulton.org

“Growing together, reaching higher”
7. When students enter the Hall, their year leaders will direct them to a chair which is spaced in line with government guidance on social distancing.

8. The students will be seated at least 1.5 metres away from the space the leader of the assembly will be standing in. This is larger than the current government guidelines of 1 metre apart.

9. There will be hand sanitizer available and your child will be asked to clean their hands on arrival.

10. At the end of the meeting, students will be escorted by the Main Hall exit. They must go straight home after the meeting and must not wait for their friends on the Golden Hillock road so that they are safe and do not breach the social distancing rules.

These strict arrangements have been put into place to ensure that everyone stays safe based on the numbers of students we know are planning to come into school. The Hall will be set out as follows:

We all have a role to play to stop the spread of infection and we must all continue to follow the NHS guidance. If any student has symptoms of Coronavirus, however mild, they must not come to school. If a student shows any symptoms at school, we will contact their parents or carers so we can send them home.

Herminder K Channa JP FCCT - Principal
Ark Boulton Academy | Birmingham | B11 2QG
T: +44 (0)121 773 8156
E: info@arkboultonacademy.org
W: www.arkboulton.org

“Growing together, reaching higher”
Anyone with symptoms must self-isolate and stay at home for at least 7 days from when the symptoms started and they should immediately arrange to have a Coronavirus test. Everyone in the household of someone with symptoms must stay at home for 14 days, or until they receive a negative test result - they should not go to work, school or use public transport or taxis.

Nobody should go out even to buy food or other essentials, and any exercise must be taken at home. If a student’s test is negative, they can come back to school. If the test is positive, they cannot come back to school until they have recovered, the minimum time they must stay at home is 7 days. If your child has a Coronavirus test, you must let us know the result as soon as possible. If the test is positive, we will need to advise everyone in their class group to stay home for 14 days.

All the information about what to do if you have symptoms is available the Government website here. At school, we will make sure that students follow the strict hygiene measures required and that they wash their hands often. Please make sure that your child understands how important it is for everyone to wash their hands regularly for 20 seconds using soap and water and that they cough and sneeze safely into a tissue or their elbow.

This has been a very unsettling time for everyone. We know that some of our Lower School students may be anxious about coming back into school, some may have had relatives who have been ill with the virus, others may have been bereaved. We will do our very best to make sure that all students are supported and enjoy returning to doing some learning at school. Please do let us know if your child might need some extra help and support at info@arkboulton.org

Our teachers and school staff have worked incredibly hard to put all of the measures needed in place to make our school safe; we really appreciate your patience and understanding whilst we made our plans.

If you need any further information, please let us know. We look forward to seeing our Lower School students back at school.

Yours faithfully

C E Entwistle       F Ahmed
Vice Principal (Lower School)    Vice Principal (Upper School)

This letter is available on our website in the following languages: Urdu, Arabic, Polish, Bengali and Somali