



Thornhill Academy

Head Teacher: **Mr I Redford**

Thornholme Road,

Sunderland,

SR2 7NA

 **0191 500 7981**

 **enquiries@thornhillacademy.com**

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Dear Parent / carer and pupil

Since returning to school last Wednesday and Thursday all staff have commented on how well our pupils have adapted to our new operations and protocols. Pupils have faced a number of 'new' systems and instructions and they have treated the whole situation with the importance it requires.

May I thank you for the time and effort you have given to reinforce our messages and instructions. Your support in this matter has been unequivocal and I am extremely grateful for the confidence that you have shown in us by allowing your son / daughter to return to school.

To further support pupils in their transition back into school life, our half term focus for additional praise points will be for responsible and considerate behaviour. Pupils will be rewarded for being responsible for their own learning as well as being considerate to others in lessons and around the school site. Parents can join tutors and teachers in encouraging pupils to demonstrate these important qualities through modelling and sharing the benefits which will help our community grow.

As the number of reported cases of COVID 19 within Sunderland continues to rise, I would like to continue to encourage pupils to bring and wear a face covering when in communal areas, corridors, BASE areas and the restaurant. Whilst it is not compulsory and the Department of Education have not suggested this is necessary, in an effort to keep ourselves and each other as safe as possible I believe this request is prudent. If a pupil wishes to wear a face covering in class this is also allowed providing it is worn correctly over the nose and mouth.

In order to support any pupils who may not be able to attend school, staff will be sharing curriculum work via Class Charts. Pupils can ensure they keep up to date with their school work by accessing the remote lessons which will mirror the knowledge and skills being taught in class. This work will be prefixed with ICA (in case of absence) and is additional to the regular homework set by pupils' subject teachers.

Once again, thank you, stay safe and I look forward to welcoming you back into our school buildings in the near future.

Best regards

Ian Redford
Headteacher



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