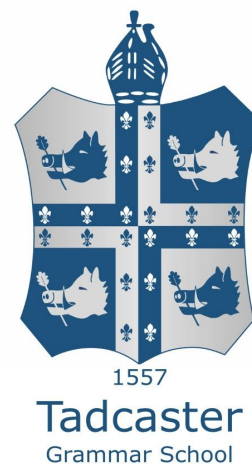


Monday 12th October 2020

Dear Parents, Carers & Students,



Covid-19 Update

Following on from my letter last week (Thursday 8th October), I write to update you about policy and procedures relevant to parents, carers and students concerning our current Covid-19 operational plan.

Contingency planning for the event of regional or national partial or full school closures

I will be writing to you again shortly to explain the contingency plans the school is currently completing concerning the continuity of education in any of the current Government planning scenarios for schools detailed below:

Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4
Small numbers of close contact students self-isolating following notification of a positive Covid-19 test from TGS students.	The school will adopt a two week rota system. Year groups will be in school for two weeks, followed by two weeks accessing Enhanced Remote Learning at home.	Only selected year groups in school (to be identified by the Department for Education). All other year groups access Enhanced Remote Learning at home. Only vulnerable children and children of critical workers in school full time.	All students access Enhanced Remote Learning at home. Only vulnerable children and children of critical workers in school full time

Promotion up the Tiers may not be linear i.e. rather than moving from Tier 1 through Tier 2, 3 and then arriving at Tier 4, we could be ordered by the Government to to move from Tier 1 straight to Tier 3 or Tier 4.

Whilst writing, a reminder about our face covering protocol. Students have been superb on the whole in keeping to this guidance. Students must be in possession of a face covering at all times and the responsibility to provide a face covering rests with the individual student.

Google Classroom/Meet Acceptable Use Agreement

To allow the school to deliver a range of interactive online learning experiences through the live function of the *Google Learning Platform* - Google Meet, we require that all parents and students have read and signed an **Acceptable User Agreement (AUA)**. This has to be signed before a young person can engage in any form of online interactive learning. Our aim is for the whole school population to have AUAs in place before **Friday 23rd October 2020**. (Parents and) students in the sixth form have already completed this process.

In order for students to access **Google Meet**, it is compulsory for parents/carers **and** students to acknowledge they will comply with the **Acceptable User Agreement (AUA)** which you can find [HERE](#)

If this is not signed then the Google Meet provision will not be available.


Deadline for completion of the Acceptable User Agreement: FRIDAY 23rd OCTOBER 2020

COVID-19-related student absence

A reminder of what action to take with Covid-19-related absence can be found on our website [HERE](#). I have included this important information at the end of this letter as well (although the hyperlinks will not be active).

Can I also ask that if your child is absent with a Covid-19 related illness or issue, and especially if they are taken for a test, that you confirm the outcome of the test and the return date with our Attendance Officer (Ms L. Oxeer attendance@tgs.starmat.uk) before they return to school.

Notifying school of a positive Covid-19 test result for a TGS student

During school hours Monday-Friday 8.00 am - 4.30 pm	Outside of school hours - including weekends and holidays
Ring School Reception on either: 01937 833466 Extension 308 or 301	Go to the school website at: https://tgs.starmat.uk/ On the homepage, click on the sliding tile (see below) and complete the notification form.  A message will then be sent to the duty staff. Please expect a phone call shortly after submitting your form. The notification form is also available HERE

Urgent Police Warning - Drug Laced Sweets Seized in Ripon

Please click [HERE](#) for a warning from North Yorkshire Police about drug-laced sweets. These so-called 'edibles' pose a risk to young people across York and North Yorkshire.

Kind regards,

Andrew Parkinson
Headteacher

Covid-19 related pupil absence

A reference guide for parents and school / setting staff (as of 16th September 2020)

What to do if...	Action Needed	Return to school when....
<p>... my child has developed one or more Covid-19 symptoms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a new continuous cough • a high temperature • a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Do not come to school or setting → Contact school or setting to inform us → Child to get a test via nhs.uk online or by calling 119 → Members of the household should self-isolate for 14 days. See Stay at Home guidance → Inform the school or setting immediately about the test results → If after 10 days, your child still has a temperature they should continue to self-isolate and seek medical advice 	<p>...the test comes back negative or a period of 10 days has passed since the symptoms started, the child feels well and does not have a temperature.</p>
<p>... my child tests positive for Covid -19</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Do not come to school or setting → Contact school or setting to inform us → Agree the earliest date for the possible return (minimum 10 days) → Members of the household should self-isolate for 14 days. See Stay at Home guidance 	<p>...10 days have passed since symptoms began, even if they still have a cough or loss of taste/smell (these symptoms can last for several weeks) AND the child feels well</p>
<p>... my child tests negative</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Contact school or setting to inform us → Discuss when your child can come back (same day/ next day) → Subject to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • everyone they live with who has symptoms tests negative • everyone in their support bubble who has symptoms tests negative • they are not a contact of a confirmed case • they are well – if they feel unwell, stay at home until feeling better 	<p>...the test comes back negative</p>
<p>... my child is ill with symptoms not linked to Covid-19</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Contact school or setting to inform us → Ring on each day of illness 	<p>...after 48 hours following the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea (as per the attendance policy).</p>
<p>...someone in my household has Covid-19 symptoms</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Do not come to school or setting → Contact school or setting to inform us → Members of the household should self-isolate for 14 days. See Stay at Home guidance → Household member to get a test via nhs.uk online or by calling 119 → Inform the school or setting immediately about the test results 	<p>...the test comes back negative</p>
<p>... someone in my household tests positive for Covid-19</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Do not come to school or setting → Contact school or setting to inform us → Agree the earliest date for the possible return (minimum 14 days) → Members of the household should self-isolate for 14 days. See Stay at Home guidance 	<p>...my child has completed 14 days of self-isolation.</p>

... NHS test and trace has identified my child as a close contact of a confirmed positive case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Do not come to school → Contact school to inform us → Agree the earliest date for the possible return (minimum 14 days) 	...my child has completed 14 days of self-isolation.
... NHS test and trace has identified a household member (not my child) as a close contact of a confirmed positive case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → The household member must self-isolate for 14 days → Child can continue to attend school 	...child(ren) can continue to attend school.
...my child has been identified as a close contact of a confirmed positive case within school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → You will receive a letter of notification from school → Child must not come to school → Support your child at home with any remote education provided by your school. → Your child will need to self-isolate for 14 days. → Other siblings may continue to attend school 	...my child has completed 14 days of self-isolation.
... my child's sibling at another school has been sent home to self-isolate due to being a contact of a confirmed positive case in their school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → The sibling must self-isolate for 14 days → Child(ren) at this school can continue to attend. 	...child(ren) can continue to attend school.
... my child has travelled abroad from a country or territory that is NOT one of the exempt list of countries. (i.e. they need to self-isolate after returning from this country).	<p>If returning from a destination where quarantine IS needed please see full travel guidance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Minimum of 14 days self-isolation for all those who travelled. → Contact school to inform us you are back in the country and we will agree an earliest date for possible return to school 	... the quarantine period of 14 days has been completed.
... my child has travelled abroad from a country or territory that IS one of the exempt list of countries. (i.e. they do NOT need to self-isolate after returning from this country).	<p>If returning from a destination where quarantine is NOT needed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Check the current Exempt Countries and Territories list to confirm the country you have travelled from or through is on the exempt list. → Ring school to inform us you have returned to the UK and agree a return date to school. 	...you have informed the school or setting office of your return (they may ask you a few questions about your travel).
...I have travelled from a country that requires us to quarantine (but my child didn't travel).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → As long as you do not have/ have not had symptoms in the last 14 days, your child can continue to attend school. → The person who has travelled MUST NOT leave the house, including to do pick-ups and drop offs 	...child(ren) can continue to attend school.
...we have received medical advice that my child must resume shielding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Do not come to school. → Contact school to inform us. → Shield until you are informed that restrictions are lifted and shielding is paused again. 	<p>... school inform you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to school again</p> <p>...you receive medical advice that your child may return to school.</p>
...I am unable to get a test for someone in the household who has symptoms.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → If you are unable to get a test, your child and anyone they live with must continue to self-isolate for 14 days. Anyone in your support bubble must also stay at home. 	... the child has completed 14 days of isolation.