



Golborne

HIGH SCHOOL

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13th July 2020

Dear Parent

Arrangements for September 2020 – **Thursday 3rd September 2020**

Firstly, I would like to thank you for your incredible support, during this time of exceptional circumstances in both education and most of our lives. Throughout the period of school closure we have worked in a very close partnership with you, as parents, in order to put the children first and to continue to provide them with an exceptional education. We have all learnt so much during this period and I am sure that the skills we have acquired in digital learning will serve us well in the future.

In my daily messages, I hope you feel, that I have acknowledged the pressure on you as parents to both, home school your children and continue with your own work commitments. I have never felt prouder to be Headteacher at Golborne High School. We have achieved great success over the last 4 years but none greater than our achievements over the last 5 months. As parents, staff and pupils we have communicated regularly, we have looked after each other and we have worked as one to ensure that the children have not suffered because of a National crisis that none of us could control. The togetherness that we have achieved has placed our children in a strong position for their return to school in September. Yes, there will be some gaps in their skills and knowledge but the plans we have in place can, and will, close the gaps rapidly.

Before I move into the arrangements for the September start I would like to thank the staff who have worked tirelessly to deliver effective lessons and to intervene on an individual level with the pupils. I am honoured to be part of a team of staff who genuinely care deeply about every child and who are prepared 'to go the extra mile' to provide every child with the best education and highest level of care. Inevitably, such talented staff do move onto other schools as they secure promotions in their career. This year I would like to say goodbye and the very best of luck to the following staff: Mr D Andrews, Mrs H Atkinson, Ms M Beattie, Miss V Bilsbury, Mr J Browne, Miss V Clampitt, Mrs G Fitzpatrick, Miss M Gallagher, Miss R Herbert, Miss S Lane, Mr E Liku Downs and Miss C Walkden. It is always sad to see staff, who are part of our Golborne Family, move on but, as always, we have appointed new staff who of the highest quality.

In September we will have 233 Year 7 pupils joining us and we are very excited to welcome them into Golborne High School on Wednesday September 2nd. We have decided to allocate this day to Year 7 only as they have not had the same experiences of transition as our current pupils and have not yet been into school. I am sure you will appreciate the decision that we have taken to focus on Years 7s induction for 1 day only. Year 7 are in a large year group and although our building, is not the largest we can accommodate the additional numbers. However, I can reveal some exciting news. We will be having a new building erected at the back of the existing canteen. This building will have 6 classrooms and a double height central space which can be used for assemblies, Drama, whole school events and is an additional lunchtime serving space. The building should be completed by April 2021.

HEADTEACHER: Mrs A. Gormally B.A. (Hons)

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...WHERE PUPILS BELIEVE
THEY CAN **achieve**



EXCELLENCE | QUALITY | CARE

In September we are excited to welcome all of the children back to school. The Leadership Team have planned this return very carefully so that we do not compromise the curriculum but do everything possible to safeguard the children under the current Government guidance. In order to meet this statutory guidance some changes have needed to be made as follows.

- All year groups will have a specific start and finish time. Pupils **must not** arrive early or late for their own safety.
- All year groups will have a specified set of toilets to use.
- KS 3 (Years 7 & 8) and KS4 (Years 9, 10 & 11) will have split breaks and split lunches which means that year groups do not mix.
- Each group will have a designated area for Break and Lunch which will be reviewed after a Half Term. Sadly this means that in the first half term Years 8 & 9 will be allocated the servery outside the gym from which to purchase food. This servery is fast food only and does offer a wide range of hot and cold food but not the entire range that is offered in the canteen. This arrangement will be reviewed after Half Term.
- We already operate a one way system and this will remain in place with all pupils expected to observe a 1 metre distance between each other as indicated by the signage around school.
- All pupils will be expected to follow good sanitary guidance and will be asked to bring hand sanitiser into school as part of their essential equipment. School will no longer loan any equipment to children so they must have all the equipment that is needed for school.
- Pupils will be asked to wipe clean their desks with disinfectant wipes at the end of every lesson – these will be supplied by us.
- Pupils will be expected to follow the good respiratory health advice of 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it' which will be reinforced in Tutorials.
- All assemblies will take place in Tutor Rooms and will be delivered live by video link on Teams.
- Tutors have been re-organised into year groups in Houses on a temporary basis.
- There will be no before or afterschool clubs for the foreseeable future.
- Finally and most importantly, please **do not** send your child into school if they are presenting symptoms of coronavirus. Please keep them at home and follow the self-isolating guidance and keep us informed. If a child presents with coronavirus symptoms, a qualified first aider will remove them from the lesson, wearing the highest level of PPE clothing. Your child will be removed to a specified room which nobody else uses and you will be asked to collect them immediately. If your child does have coronavirus we will initiate the test and trace process. If more than 2 people in a year group are tested positive for the virus then everybody who has come into contact with them will be asked to self isolate for 14 days.

I hope you appreciate that we are doing everything possible to minimise the risk of infection to your child whilst maintaining an excellent education. We have employed additional cleaning staff and incorporated deep cleans at the end of every school day. It is impossible to make a promise that I can keep your children safe from the coronavirus but I can promise that I will do everything possible with the Leadership Team and Governors to minimise the risk of infection and to keep everybody safe. At the end of this letter is the precise information about your individual child's return to school. Please can you ensure that they know this information and follow it as there is no room for flexibility.

When children return to school we want them to be happy and safe. You can support us by ensuring that your child brings their own equipment into school, including highlighters, calculator and hand sanitiser. All pupils will be expected to wear the full school uniform and may wear gloves and a mask as long as they are disposed of following the statutory guidance (displayed in school). All of the key information in this letter will be displayed visually around school and the pupils will be given stickers on September 3rd which display their individual arrangements.

Finally can I wish you a wonderful summer break and more than ever I look forward to seeing your children, dressed with pride in their new uniforms, standing at their entrance points and smiling!

Yours sincerely

A Gormally

Mrs A Gormally
Headteacher