



8<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

As we begin our first full week with all year groups in school, I wanted to say how good it is to welcome back your children to St Bede's. For many, it was been a long time since they physically came to school and although most pupils successfully engaged with remote learning, we all appreciate that this cannot replace being in school. I want to particularly welcome our new Year 7 pupils and those who are joining us in other groups this year.

I need to congratulate all our pupils for the start they have made to the year and the way they have adapted to the new conditions we have had to put in place. Our pupils have been an absolute credit to themselves in the way they have coped with the changes and the got on with their learning so quickly.

The need for us all to act to reduce the spread of the virus remains and means that we must continue to follow the control measures. These include not sending your child to school if they display any of the symptoms linked with Covid-19, following strict hand and respiratory hygiene and wearing a face covering on public transport as well as communal areas of school. Pupils remain in their year group 'bubbles' with separate breaks and lunches away from other year groups. Pupils are taught by their specialist teachers who move between these bubbles and so it is very important that the teachers remain at least two meters apart from pupils. This means that teachers cannot support pupils with close 1:1 support as they might have done previously. I can assure you that this is as equally frustrating for teachers as it is for pupils but it is a very important measure for schools. For more general information please see [www.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)

It is still possible that in the event of an outbreak and following the advice of Public Health, classes or year groups might have to be sent home to self-isolate. If this does happen, those classes or year groups will be taught with live on-line lessons from their teachers. More details of this will be sent to you if we need to do this. If individual pupils have to self-isolate, they will be set work via Show my Homework and this will also direct them to other on-line resources.

Finally, I need to draw your attention to the changes (or addendum) to the school's behaviour policy. This is available on the school website. This is a temporary change to reflect the need for control measures during the health crisis. Please do read this and discuss it with your child.

Thank you for your continued support

D Callaghan  
Headteacher