

Tel: 01322 224309 Fax: 01322 222445 Email: office@dstc.kent.sch.uk

www.dstc.kent.sch.uk

Principal: Mrs Anne Davis

Heath Lane Dartford Kent DA1 2LY

3rd December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Further to my previous correspondence with you on 13th October regarding COVID contingency plans I am writing to inform you of how our strategy has changed in line with new government advice. In October we wrote to you to describe how we intended to move forward in line with government policy as published at the time. Please disregard the information given in that letter because the Department for Education guidance has since been updated. Now, regardless of which tier schools fall under they will remain open wherever possible.

We are working hard on strategies to keep as many students in school as possible in the event of a COVID case and will continue to do everything we can to keep every student in school safely. This week Kent Headteacher's received a letter from Matt Dunkley CBE who is the Corporate Director for Children, Young People and Education. Mr Dunkley emphasised how crucial regular attendance is to maintain children's learning, physical and mental well-being. We are doing everything we can to support high attendance and are grateful for your continued help to encourage your children to be with us every day.

For those students at home due to illness or self-isolation they should continue to refer to Google Classroom where they can access their lesson resources and homework tasks. In the case of widespread infections teachers may be able to provide live lessons via Google Meet and will let students know if this is the case. The responsibility remains with the student to check for new work but your support in reinforcing the importance of doing so to ensure students are engaging fully is invaluable.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents and carers for your continued support. We are pleased to be working hard every day with you to provide our students with the best education we can. I would ask that you continue to reinforce our messages of the importance of staying safe at school, in particular remembering to regularly wash hands, wear masks indoors at all times and staying only in designated friendship bubbles.

As a team we continue to work through this together.

Kind regards

Mrs A Davis Principal

