

# Parent/Guardian Information

## Co-curricular arrangements

### September 2020



**This information is intended to provide parents/guardians with further details of the co-curricular arrangements put in place at DCPS at the start of the new school year.**

### Games

In games lessons, girls will do hockey and boys will do rugby, as is usual for the Michaelmas term. The year group 'bubbles' will be maintained and all sessions will follow the guidelines set out by the relevant National Governing Body. Equipment cannot be shared or loaned, so it is imperative that all pupils have the correct equipment at all times.

**The planned 'pre-season' hockey training will not take place this term.**

### Individual music lessons

We are very pleased to be welcoming our wonderful team of visiting music teachers back into school for lessons face to face from the start of September. Should a pupil or teacher need to isolate for any reason, the lessons will continue virtually.

In order to ensure staff and pupil health and safety, the following control measures will be in place:

- All pupils should wash their hands before attending a music lesson
- All pupils should use hand sanitiser prior to and following their lesson.
- Hand sanitiser will be provided in all music tuition rooms.
- A screen will be provided to be placed between the student and teacher in each room. Each screen and surfaces (including pianos / keyboards) will be cleaned between each pupil.
- Woodwind, brass and singing lessons will take place in the larger rooms in Hardy.
- All rooms will be well ventilated, with windows open where possible.

Further information:

- Individual music lessons will begin in the week of 14th September.
- Pupils should be aware of the new times of music lessons, on the hour or half past the hour throughout most of the day.
- Parents will not be able to attend lessons until further notice.
- Music teachers will be using "the blue books" regularly to pass on practice information and will be encouraged to discuss progress at regular intervals.
- Instruments will continue to be stored in the instrument stores. Only pupils may take and fetch their instruments.
- Music ensembles will not begin for the first few weeks as the school settles into its new routine. It is likely some ensembles will begin after exeat.

### Learning Support

Learning Support lessons will commence in the week beginning September 14th, with the exception of those pupils who do not take Latin/French/Spanish. For these lessons, the pupils will come to the Learning Support department.

The majority of Learning Support lessons take place on a 1:1 basis. Where it is necessary for a maximum of no more than 3 pupils to be in a lesson, appropriate social distancing will be observed.

In order to ensure staff and pupil health and safety, the following control measures will be in place:

- Hand sanitiser, tissues, antibacterial spray and wipes will be provided in each room.
- All pupils should wash their hands before arriving at the Learning Support Dept.
- One way system into the Learning Support rooms.
- All pupils should sanitise their hands on entry to the room and on leaving it.
- Pupils will bring their own stationery items and whiteboard and pen.
- Rooms will be well ventilated, with open windows and doors where possible.
- Staff and pupils will be sat at a 2 metre distance from one another.
- Tables, chairs and any other touched equipment will be cleaned with antibacterial spray after each pupil leaves the room, before the next pupil enters the room.

In the event that a pupil is unable to attend school in person, learning support lessons will be arranged at a mutually agreed time and take place via Google Meet.

## EAL lessons

EAL lessons will begin on Tuesday 8th September. The majority of EAL lessons take place on a 1:1 basis. Where it is necessary for a maximum of no more than 3 pupils to be in a lesson, appropriate social distancing will be observed.

In order to ensure staff and pupil health and safety, the following control measures will be in place:

- Hand sanitiser, tissues, antibacterial spray and wipes will be provided in each room
- All pupils should wash their hands before arriving at learning support.
- One-way system into the EAL classroom via the Learning Support classrooms.
- All pupils should hand sanitise their hands on entry to the room and on leaving it.
- Pupils will bring their own stationery items (pencil, rubber, pens and colouring pencils).
- Rooms will be well ventilated with open windows and doors where possible.
- Staff and pupils will be sat at a 2 metre distance from one another.
- Tables, chairs and any other touched equipment will be cleaned with antibacterial spray after each pupil leaves the room, and before the next pupil enters the room.

In the event that a pupil is unable to attend school in person, the teaching of EAL lessons will take place remotely via Google Meet and EAL work and Prep will be available using Google Classroom.

## Speech and Drama

We are delighted to return to face-to-face Speech and Drama tuition from the start of September. Should a pupil or teacher need to isolate for any reason, the lessons will continue virtually.

To ensure staff and pupil health and safety, the following control measures will be in place:

- All pupils should wash their hands before attending a Drama lesson.
- All pupils should use hand sanitiser prior to, and following, their lesson.
- Hand sanitizer will be provided in all Drama teaching rooms.
- Any surfaces like drama blocks, chairs, tables, props etc which have been used during a lesson will be cleaned between each pupil.
- All rooms will be well ventilated, with windows open where possible.
- All pupils should bring their Drama folders, stationery, and Drama pieces to all lessons.
- A detailed weekly timetable will be available, and it is important that pupils check their weekly lesson day and time, and are prompt for their lessons.
- Miss Cooper's Speech and Drama lessons will take place either in the Rickerby Dance Studio or in one of the Day Houses in the Rickerby Building. Pupils are urged to make a careful note of the location of their weekly lesson.

Further information:

- Extra-curricular Speech and Drama lessons will begin in the week of 14th September.

- Pupils who have opted for individually charged half hour lessons, will continue to have 30 minute individual lessons.
- Pupils who normally have a paired lesson will continue to be charged for a paired lesson, but to observe health and safety at this time, they will have individual lessons of 15 minutes.
- Pupils who normally have a group lesson of 3 pupils will continue to be charged for a group lesson, but to observe health and safety at this time, they will have individual lessons of 10 minutes.
- These measures will continue until such time as it is possible to reintegrate the groups.

## Dance

We are thrilled that dance lessons will be returning to school from September and we are very much looking forward to seeing the children.

To ensure the safety of the teaching staff and pupils the following control measures will be in place:

- All pupils will need to wash their hands before attending their dance class.
- All pupils will sanitize their hands on entering and leaving the dance studio.
- Any surfaces such as Barres and door handles will be cleaned in between each lesson.
- The room will be well ventilated with windows open where possible.
- All pupils should wear dance shoes for lessons. This can be ballet shoes even for modern classes. If the children do not have ballet shoes then Jazz shoes can be worn instead.
- Lessons will take place either in the Rickerby Dance Studio or the Dance studio in the sports hall.
- Staff will exercise all the necessary precautions to ensure the health and safety of all students.

## Tennis lessons and horse riding sessions

Private tennis lessons before school or at lunch time will start after exeat. Lessons after school or on Saturday mornings (junior forms) will aim to start in week 2, i.e. week commencing Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September.

Horse riding will not take place until further notice, due to the health and safety of transport and the mixing of different year groups.

## Friday Challenge Activity time

The Friday Challenge is an exciting innovation in the academic life of DCPS. This is an entirely new slot on a Friday afternoon when children across the school will be learning outside the classroom and outside of 'normal' lessons. There are a variety of activities for children to choose from, all of which have a curriculum link, and which will challenge and stretch children's thinking, physical abilities or creative skills in new ways. Some examples include: board game-making; philosophy; a junior enterprise session; LEGO challenges; orienteering; and for the older children, Radio DCPS and Ancient Greek will be part of the programme. This session is compulsory for children but they are able to make a choice (which can then be revisited after a half-term or term in some cases). At the moment these have to be planned for individual year groups to enable us to meet safety guidelines.

## Swimming lessons

Further information will follow about when swimming lessons and swim squad training sessions will resume.

## Clubs and Activities

To assist with logistics and whilst children settle at the start of this new term, until at least the first Exeat weekend, all our usual after school clubs and activities have been cancelled.