

Date Valley School Trust

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Asalaamu alaikum wa rahmatullahi wa barakatuhu,

I hope you and your families are well and in a high state of Eemaan, in shaa Allah. At Date Valley we are constantly reviewing our risk assessment and trying to tighten up our procedures. After having had such a long-time off school due to COVID 19, this term we are seeing that the children are more settled than before half term alhamdulillah. This will be due to the consistency of being at school and is something we really want to continue in shaa Allah.

We want to avoid a closure of the school or a bubble going down and reverting to online learning due to COVID 19. This letter consists of key reminders to support our school in staying open. Please read these carefully and ensure these guidelines are adhered to.

Office/ School Communication:

- **General and non-urgent enquiries** must be via email or telephone. Parents must avoid entering the school building to speak to the office, unless the task cannot be completed via these methods
- Parents need to drop their child/children on time, this is to avoid bubbles crossing at the reception entrance. Children are moving around the corridors to get to their classrooms. The staggered timings are to ensure they can reach their class safely, without crossing other year group bubbles
- Toilet access is prohibited. Unfortunately, we are unable to allow access to the toilets for any reason before or after school

Hifth Booklets

- Ideally, we would like to have this system go online too. However, this will require further training. Therefore, in order to minimise the risk we request that when **parents use the Hifth booklet, they hand sanitise before and afterwards**. Additionally, please note that all Quran Teachers will also be hand sanitising before and after as well
- The reading books have a different system because we view the risk to be higher. Since they can potentially be entering a number of different households each week, we have opted to quarantine these

Car sharing:

You should try not to share a vehicle with those outside your household or support bubble. If you need to do this, try to:

- share the transport with the same people each time
- keep to small groups of people at any one time
- open windows for ventilation
- travel side by side or behind other people, rather than facing them, where seating arrangements allow, face away from each other
- consider seating arrangements to maximise distance between people in the vehicle
- clean your car between journeys using standard cleaning products - make sure you clean door handles and other areas that people may touch
- ask the driver and passengers to wear a face covering

'At Date Valley we are respectful, reflective and resilient learners'

How to stop COVID-19 spreading:

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID-19. These are:

- To wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- To use a hand sanitiser gel, if soap and water is not available
- To wash your hands as soon as you get home
- To cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- To put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards

Taking responsibility to reduce the spread of Covid 19:

- Once you have dropped/ picked up your child please **avoid remaining on site and talking to other parents. Please try to leave as soon as possible.**
- While waiting for your child please **maintain social distancing and even wear a mask**
- Avoid close contact with other parents who are not in your household. Avoid hugging or other physical contact

Online (remote) learning:

- Please inform the office when your child or anyone in your household is displaying symptoms and is isolating
- The office will inform the relevant staff members and online learning will be provided for the next working day
- This will include a plan and any relevant teaching material for English, Maths, Science, Foundation Subjects and Quran Tafsir
- Once the work has been completed it can be submitted via DOJO (portfolio) and feedback will be provided after 4pm

Homework menus will be issued on line and all own work will need to be posted online via portfolio for teacher feedback.

Please note our teachers will be teaching during the school day. Currently they are marking online work after school, creating work for the isolating children, marking own work on line, Narrow the gap work, writing Autumn Reports and other related school jobs, so we ask you to bear with them. I have been viewing messages and feel that parents need to appreciate the extra workload that has been created due to COVID 19.

COVID 19 Health and Safety Inspection on Friday 23rd October 2020

At Date Valley we were inspected by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE). This was a formal visit. There were two inspectors and they stayed for 4 hrs. Their visit consisted of a session with myself and Tahira about our documentation, systems and procedures. After this, they walked around the school to ensure that we were implementing our risk assessment accurately and to ensure that our systems were tight. They conducted a general health and safety inspection and reviewed our toilet system. Additionally, they spoke to children and staff members about COVID 19 related measures. We are pleased to say that the inspection went well and they were confident about how the school was operating alhamdulillah. We wanted to share this good news with you!

I appreciate your support and cooperation regarding the above information. By working together as a community, we can only try our very best to minimise the risk and ensure that we are keep safe, in shaa Allah.

Neena Lone
Head teacher

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