

Tuesday 27th October 2020



Dear Parents/Carers,

Keeping our community safe in the times of COVID

As we start autumn 2 and with winter closing in, it is right to take stock of our precautions and restate the key procedures to keep our students and staff as safe as possible in Ark Academy.

As we hear all the time, we all need to adhere to the common sense advice:

Hands, face, space

This means in Ark Academy: -

Face

- **All students and staff must wear a mask in the corridors and public spaces** where there is greater mingling. Please could you, therefore, ensure your child has a stock of clean masks that they can wear each day.

Hands

- We remind our students **to wash their hands regularly and avoid touching their face**. Soap and water is the most effective means for stopping the virus spreading through touch.
- We, of course, **provide sanitisers throughout the building** but they need to be used sensibly and not excessively. Some students have used them playfully and certainly inappropriately. This overuse creates shortages which affects others.
- **Students must not share their equipment with their classmates**. It is really important that over half term students re-stock their pencil case and, also, if possible buy their own glue stick. Sharing equipment is a potential virus spreader.

Space

- Please remind your child, as we do, of **the importance of limiting close contact with each other**. Last half term we noticed more and more **students hugging each other or with arms around each other**. This level of close contact significantly increases the spread of the virus. This is the hardest aspect for all of us to enforce but it is highly important if we are to keep our community safe.

We have so far, in Ark Academy, had a very low level of coronavirus cases and all have self-isolated

appropriately. However, we cannot be complacent, we need to ensure that we remain as alert as we possibly can. So in new half term, let's all renew our vigilance and commitment to:

Hands, face, space

Thank you, as ever, for your support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Delia Smith', written in black ink on a light background.

Delia Smith
Principal