



Wednesday 1st September 2021

Dear parents,

Welcome to the new school year, I hope you and your families have all enjoyed lovely summer holidays, despite the somewhat disappointing weather. I am writing to you today to ensure that you all have the information needed regarding the current situation with covid and the routines at the aspire schools.

#### School uniform orders

We have received an email from Brigade, our school uniform suppliers stating that due to issues with their suppliers and the lack of lorry drivers, some orders have been delayed. If you have not received your order please contact your child's school office who may be able to help you.

#### Drop off and pick up at the aspire schools

We no longer need to have staggered drop off and pick up times for the children, so at Kingswood, Ulcombe and Platts heath all children will need to be dropped off between 8.45am and 9am, and at Leeds and Broomfield between 8.35am and 8.45am. All children will need to be collected at 3.15pm. Senior and office staff will be around on Monday 6th September to ensure everyone knows where they are going. Please be mindful of social distancing and stand back and give people space during drop off and pick up. Children who are attending breakfast club and after school club at Kingswood and Leeds and Broomfield will need to be brought to the main entrance and picked up from the same place. Please contact Mrs Sanchez or Mrs Steer if you have questions about the wrap around care.

#### Covid and self isolation

As I am sure you are aware the rules around self isolation have changed, children and adults who have had both covid vaccinations do not need to self isolate unless they test positive for covid themselves. This means that if we have a positive case in school, only staff who have not received both vaccinations will need to isolate if they have had direct contact. We have collected information from the staff and will inform you if this affects your child in any way. It also means that if someone in your family tests positive the children do not need to isolate themselves, and can continue to attend school, unless of course they test positive. I would suggest if someone in your household does test positive regular testing of everyone else whilst the person is infectious is advisable. Please inform the school and seek advice from either myself or your head of

school if you are unsure. I can be contacted at [exechead@aspire-kent.org.uk](mailto:exechead@aspire-kent.org.uk) during working hours.

#### Assemblies, parents evenings and other events

All of these can now take place with parents attending and children mixing. Individual schools will send information about their events. Please understand that these may be subject to change should covid cases rise and the local restrictions are uplevelled. After school clubs for pupils will also start again this term- each school will send out a timetable as to what is available.

#### Risk assessment and infection management

The aspire federation latest covid risk assessment and outbreak management plan have been attached to this letter. Please read both documents carefully when you have time, so that you have an understanding of what will happen if positive cases rise in the local area and/or school. Please also see my letter from Wednesday 7th July which set out the guidance for September 2021.

#### Career opportunities within Aspire

All vacancies are advertised on the Kent teach website - <https://www.kent-teach.com/>. Currently there are vacancies for an after school club leader at Kingswood, two one to one Teaching assistants at Platts Heath and a cleaner also at Platts Heath. We are also still looking for an active leader/teacher to teach interventions through active learning. If you have any queries about any of the positions please see the website or contact me at [exechead@aspire-kent.org.uk](mailto:exechead@aspire-kent.org.uk)

The staff and I look forward to welcoming you all back to the aspire schools and are pleased to be returning to normal at least for the time being.

Kind regards,

Emma Hickling

Executive Headteacher  
Aspire Federation