



# MAIDEN ERLEGH

## CHILTERN EDGE

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Dear Parent/Guardian

The week has been dominated by our work on getting ready for a full opening of the school in September. I wanted to use this platform to share with you some of the key ideas that we will be implementing in September. In terms of reference points, I have attended meetings of local headteacher groups, read widely on what other schools and trusts are doing, attended a national webinar and also been part of a lengthy Maiden Erlegh Trust meeting. This information has then been used to guide school meetings with my senior leadership colleagues which has led us to initial (and I am keen to emphasise the term initial) plans for September.

- 1) We have endeavoured to keep our broad and balanced curriculum. No subjects will be removed from the timetable; however, we will adapt the curriculum delivery to meet guidelines. For example, the unit on singing in Year 8 Music has been moved into the summer term, Dance will not involve any group or paired work, PE will not include any contact sports initially.
- 2) Cleaning materials and PPE: Each classroom will contain a kit that will allow rooms to be cleaned between classrooms. Ventilation of each room will be a priority.
- 3) We will have a cleaner on site each day who will clean high frequency touch points during lessons such as door handles and toilets each hour.
- 4) Seating will be all facing the front so that the students are not facing each other and we will attempt to keep teaching staff to a distance of 2 metres from the students.
- 5) The students will be divided into Year 7 and 8 and Year 9/10/11. These two groups will use separate entrances, separate toilets and have separate social areas.
- 6) The canteen will serve a greater range of 'grab and go' food to reduce the time students spend in the canteen. We are also attempting to organise a 'pop up' canteen in another part of the school to further reduce queues.
- 7) We will have a strict one-way policy in some areas of the school and where this is impossible lessons will finish 3 minutes early to allow for an exit that avoids two-way traffic.
- 8) Staff in subjects such as Art, Technology and Science will be given specific training by the Trust in health and safety so as to ensure that hygiene procedures are followed.
- 9) Sports clubs and trips are currently not planned to happen for the first half term.

All of this will be put onto our risk assessment which will be moderated and validated by the Trust at the end of next week. It will be put on the website towards the end of August for you to read. As I stated earlier this is definitely a situation that can shift and change so I don't want to be too specific too soon but wanted to give you some clear ideas of our plans and also to give you the assurance that in broad terms we are in line with other schools and compliant with the government regulations.

Next week, we are hosting a Parents' Forum on Wednesday at 6.30pm. There has been a communication regarding this already however if you would like to come we will be holding it in a socially distanced format in the Main Hall. Please contact Mrs Allen on [meceheadspa@maidenerleghtrust.org](mailto:meceheadspa@maidenerleghtrust.org) by the 13<sup>th</sup> July, if you would like to attend. We will be discussing our plans for next year and are using this platform as opportunity to garner your feedback.

One of my highlights this week has been the virtual sporting fixture versus Highdown. We have had a great school community response with staff, students, siblings and parents all participating in a range of activities. Seeing the staff planking during their lunch break on Wednesday in the staff room was great and it is lovely to see so many students on site getting involved too; squatting, head standing and running. As it stands we are 4-0 up after 4 days with a really high level of participation. Initially, there had been some thought of pro-rata percentages to equalise the two schools because of the inequity between the size of each community. However, there was no need as we all got stuck in and emerged victorious on each of the first four days.

Next week is our virtual Sports Day. This will see interform competition in a range of different sports. To 'whet your whistle' in anticipation of this event can I draw your attention to the promotional video from our website with some great staff performances. Please do look out for Mr Harte's demonstration of the speed bounce! The link is [here](#)

Next week also sees our Year 9 students return to site. 25% of them will be with us each day getting some consolidation work in Maths, English and Science. Alongside this we will have Year 10 in their Options groups coming in across the week. In addition Year 7 and 8 have a combination of a catch-up week for those students who have fallen behind and will be asked to complete some key tasks ready for September. Those students fully up to date will be set work on area that supports the taught curriculum but is an exciting topic to explore and enhance their knowledge. There's a lot going on but fingers crossed we can maintain the provision we have provided across the last weeks.

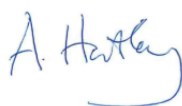
Thank you so much to all of the parents who have sent us positive messages and complimentary notes, it does mean an awful lot in these uncertain times.

Lastly, please can I ask that as parents that you know where your children are when they go out. We have had some reports of vandalism on a property locally and whilst none of the identified culprits are our students as a teenager it is easy to get caught up in group behaviour. Linked to this we've also had reports of a number of students swimming in the Thames unsupervised. For some young people in the right conditions, on the right stretch of river this may not be a problem but as I am sure you are only too aware, there are deaths on an almost annual basis swimming in the Thames. I hope you don't mind me raising awareness of these matters but as a community it is always worthwhile to keep talking about such matters to avoid any future tragedies or life changing events.

Please use the [FAB](#) and [DRAB](#) links to pass on any feedback you may have to us as well as [staff member of the week](#) to let us know which staff member has gone above and beyond.

Have a great weekend everyone,

Yours



Andrew Hartley  
Headteacher