



4th February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

In-School Provision

Since January, we have been supporting a significantly large and increasing number of students in school. This has reached a critical point now where we need to triage our approach to offering school places and, as we start term 4, on Monday 22nd February, we will need to limit the number of students on site at any time. This is to ensure that we keep within the parameters of our health and safety risk assessment, whilst providing care for our most vulnerable children, and a fair and equitable approach towards caring for children whose parents and carers are critical workers.

Following consultation with Governors **it was agreed that ALL parents and carers need to re-apply now for their son/daughter to be considered for a place as part of our in-school provision for term 4. This can be done using the link contained in the email accompanying this letter. The deadline for completion of this is Midday on Monday 8th February.** Requests made after this time will be placed on a reserve list. We will inform you as to whether or not we are able to allocate your son/daughter a place by Friday 12th February. Where a place is offered to a student whose parents/carers are critical workers, I will then ask them to submit evidence of such status and of working days/shifts prior to beginning Term 4. Places offered may be full-time, or for specific days/part-days. If you experience any difficulty completing the form, please ensure you contact me via our school reception or my email address below before midday on Monday 8th February.

The Government expects us to prioritise the places we offer to students. For this reason, priority will be given to **vulnerable students** in any year group with current social care support and/or holding an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

Until at least Monday 8th March, the government continues to expect that students should **remain at home** unless their parents/carers are critical workers and unable to provide adequate childcare. In line with Government and NSPCC guidance, it will be our assumption going forwards that students aged 12 and above are able to look after themselves at home. Subsequent places in our in-school provision will therefore be offered in the following priority order:

- **Workers critical to the Covid response:** Frontline MOD, emergency services and medical care workers inclusive of Covid-19 vaccination teams
- **Care sector workers:** Social care, health sector staff, and mental health support workers. Education staff including pre-school and nurse staff

Head Teacher: Mrs P Wilson BA (Hons)

Telephone: 01453 822469 Fax: 01453 825615 Email: office@maidenhill.gloucs.sch.uk

Kings Road, Stonehouse, Gloucestershire GL10 2HA

www.maidenhill.gloucs.sch.uk

- **Students with complex needs:** Where senior staff decide that, these needs cannot be met safely at home
- **Critical infrastructure workers:** Power, utilities, public transport workers
- **Critical workers for food:** Essential delivery staff and those working in supply supermarket chains for example
- Other workers deemed 'critical' as defined by the Government. A copy of Critical Worker definitions can be found in the Covid Response section on our website.

We regret that due to the need to limit the number of students on site at any time, and to maintain the health and safety risk assessment of our school, we may not be able to continue to offer places to all students currently accessing our provision.

If offered a place, it will be expected that students attend for every session offered. A parent/carer choosing not to send their son/daughter into school will deny the place for another child who could have accessed our provision. In this case, that child's place will be reviewed. Any changes to the required provision deemed essential should be raised with the relevant Learning Community Leader in the first instance and a decision to amend any offer will be made by Mr Hunter, Deputy Head Teacher.

I thank you for your perseverance and understanding at this very difficult time. We understand that the vast majority of students and families are finding learning at home more challenging than being in school. As always, if there are any specific issues of a practical/IT nature, please do not hesitate to contact your son/daughter's tutor in the first instance. It goes without saying that we most sincerely hope that we can all return to some sense of normality in the very near future.

If you have any questions, please contact me via our main reception or via email on: ahunter@maidenhill.gloucs.sch.uk

Yours sincerely,



Mr A Hunter
Deputy Head Teacher