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Head Teacher: Mr J Brooks B Ed (Hons) NPQH

7<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Dear Parent / Carer,

As part of the Government's approach to the management of COVID-19 in educational settings, all schools and colleges have been asked to adopt a 'Tier' system of restrictions.

I am writing to outline Maplewell Hall School's approach to the Tier system and what it means for students. I have also attached a graphic to illustrate what would happen at each stage.

Since the start of term, we have been operating at 'Stage 1' which means our main site and Post 16 sites have been fully open with robust safety measures and a school 'bubble' system in place. **I have taken the decision to move to 'Stage 2' on both sites.**

This is due to a recent confirmed case in school and the government information on infection rates, which continue to rise nationally. This is especially so as we move into winter, I would like to explain what we are doing at our current level and subsequent levels.

### How our school tier system works

- **Stage 2 restrictions:** we will put students into year group bubbles in school. This means that there will be restricted movement around the main site. Each bubble will have dedicated support staff. Teachers will continue to deliver their own lessons by rotating around the bubbles, whilst ensuring that they socially distance from students and support staff. Any students self-isolating can access their learning via Google Classroom.
- **Stage 3 restrictions:** we would allow full-time, on-site provision only for vulnerable children, the children of critical workers and selected year groups as identified by the Department for Education. Full remote delivery would happen for all other groups. There will be a mixture of live lessons and Google classroom access.
- **Stage 4 restrictions:** we would only provide support for vulnerable students and the children of key workers with full remote delivery of all timetabled lessons. All learning will revert to remote learning.

School lunches will continue to be provided, with a hot option **only** available on certain days for students at Stages 2, 3 and 4. This is designed to limit the movement of students around the school during the day.



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## Keeping our school community safe

Although we have nearly 400 students and staff at Maplewell, we have only recorded 1 COVID-19 case since March 2020. There is no evidence of the virus spreading between or within our school community. Students should be praised for their response in keeping themselves and others safe.

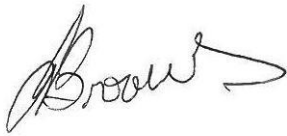
It is so important that we all continue to observe the rules so that we can keep our school community as safe as possible.

Thank you to everyone who has reported symptoms and isolated as required. If you have any questions or want to tell us about a suspected COVID-19 case, please do not hesitate in contacting us.

Please remember, you should only [get a COVID-19 test](#) if you experience one or more of the symptoms: a high temperature, a new or continuous cough and, or a loss of sense of smell or taste.

I would like to thank you all for your support and understanding as we navigate through this situation together. Please refrain from criticising school actions on social media. It can be very damaging to the reputation of the school. We are doing our level best for our students and staff alike. Getting through this challenge whilst providing the highest quality education in the safest way possible is our key focus.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jason Brooks', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jason Brooks  
Headteacher