

25 August 2020



Dear Parents/Carers,

After a challenging year for everyone, I am pleased to inform you that Inclusion Hampshire is fully reopening for all students from **Monday 7 September 2020**.

Please find included with this letter your child's Autumn Term timetable and a 'Return to Inclusion handbook'.

All of the Inclusion Hampshire team is excited to welcome back all of our learners and to continue providing the best support and education.

Although the coronavirus (Covid-19) situation has improved in the UK its impact on the mental health and education of young people across the country is already evident. We will continue to implement our 'Recovery Curriculum', which we began in July when we partially reopened, and will continue to implement the 'Return to Education' plans sent in July in order to help address these for our learners.

Nevertheless, Covid-19 continues to remain serious and will have an ongoing impact over the coming year.

Inclusion Hampshire has been closely following all of the government's guidance and recommendations to ensure a safe return for all our learners from September. The remainder of this letter, as well as the accompanying Return to Inclusion handbook, will outline how we will be keeping everyone safe.

For our learners there are not many significant changes from when we reopened in July and, day to day, their experience of Inclusion Hampshire should largely return to normal. All of our learners adapted to the new arrangements in July brilliantly and demonstrated maturity and understanding of the measures we have taken to keep them safe.

The previous six months have been difficult and our main aim for September is to ensure that all our learners feel safe and able to discuss the past six months, and its impact, in a supportive, understanding and nurturing environment.

All of these documents, including our risk assessment, and links to NHS Test and Trace, will be posted on our website and social media pages.

1. Attendance

The government has said that it expects all students to be back in education from September and attendance records will be reinstated.

This includes those who were previously shielding. The government withdrew its shielding advice for those who were 'clinically extremely vulnerable' and 'clinically vulnerable' on 1 August 2020.

Inclusion Hampshire does not issue penalty fines for attendance but referring schools are again able to issue these if they feel it is necessary.

2. Sickness

If your child is sick in any way please do not send them into their session.

The most common symptoms of Covid-19 are well known (see Appendix B of the Return to Inclusion handbook) but the virus continues to present in varying, unexpected ways depending on the individual.

For the safety of your child, all our learners and staff, and other people who they may come into contact with, **please do not send them into their session if they are unwell.**

We are unable to call before each session (as we did during our partial reopening in July) to check every learner is well so please contact us as soon as possible to let us know that your son or daughter will not be attending and that they are unwell. We will mark this absence as illness on the register and offer advice on accessing a coronavirus test, if necessary.

Please call Inclusion Hampshire on 01256 760800 to inform staff that your child will not be attending and follow Appendix A of the Return to Inclusion handbook for further advice.

3. NHS Test and Trace

If anyone becomes unwell with a new and persistent cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell, they must be sent home and advised to follow the government's stay at home guidance.

The learner will have to self-isolate for at least 10 days and you should arrange for them to have a test to confirm if it is coronavirus (Covid-19) by the NHS Test and Trace programme. This can be found at this web address: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119. This is free for everyone.

Until a negative result has been confirmed the learner will not be able to attend their sessions. If their result is positive, they will need to self-isolate for 10 days. If they tested positive whilst not experiencing symptoms but develop symptoms during the isolation period, they should restart the 10 day isolation period from the day they develop symptoms.

If another family member in the child's household (including siblings) has symptoms associated with Covid-19 they should self-isolate for 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms.

4. Transport

During our Summer Term reopening we asked parents and carers to provide transport for their children in order to minimise exposure to Covid-19. We are continuing to encourage parents and carers to provide transport, where possible.

For those who live locally they will be able to walk or cycle to their sessions. For those who are entitled to Hampshire County Council (HCC) transport they will be able to access this again from September. HCC has taken measures to ensure its transport and drivers are taking all necessary

precautions. Further details of these measures can be found on Hampshire County Council's website.

Although we continue to recommend that learners not arrive by public transport we recognise that this may be the only option for some.

Please contact Inclusion Hampshire on 01256 760800, or email me at matthew.atkinson@inclusionhampshire.org.uk (or any member of staff whose email you have) to let us know how your son or daughter will be making their way to their session in September.

5. Face coverings

We will be encouraging the use of face coverings on site at all times from September to protect the health of everyone.

We recognise that for many of our learners they will not be able to wear them and there will be no stigma attached to those who do not wear face coverings on site. We will be able to help learners access exemptions cards if they are unable to wear them for medical or sensory reasons.

Inclusion Hampshire will be able to provide reusable cotton face coverings for learners who do not own one but these are limited and must be washed after every use (ideally on a 60 degree wash). It is the responsibility of the individual and parents/carers to ensure that all face coverings are washed and hygienic for each session.

Disposable face coverings will also be available if these are preferred.

6. Curriculum

Our Senior Leadership Team and Department Heads have developed a blended curriculum to enable our learners to consolidate and strengthen achieved learning during lockdown and move forward positively. One of the ways we have done this is to include a third English/Maths session each week (which is detailed on the timetables you have received) which we have called 'consolidate and progress'.

For some, remote learning via Google Classroom has become a preferred way of learning and we will be embedding this throughout the curriculum as a tool to consolidate on-site teaching. Face to face teaching, with immediate feedback and tutor support, will continue to be the preferred means of teaching and learning.

If your child has to self-isolate due to a suspected case of Covid-19 tutors will be able to use Google Classroom and home learning packs to ensure that whilst they are self-isolating the disruption to their learning is minimal (assuming they are well with no symptoms).

Lessons will be posted on Google Classroom to be completed and tutors will provide feedback and guidance on all completed learning.

As part of our preparedness, we will be ensuring that every learner is able to access and sign in to Google Classroom. We will be practicing how to do this on site, with the support of staff.

If the government advises that there should be a local, regional or national lockdown, Inclusion Hampshire is ready to move all of its teaching online immediately to minimise disruption. If this is

required, I will be in contact to update you of our plans.

7. Pastoral visits/meetings

I know that many of you regularly contact our pastoral manager, Jane Gardner, and that she regularly home visits. In order to follow the government guidance about social distancing Jane will be limiting home visits to only those which are essential.

These visits will also be conducted in outside spaces (for example in a garden). If it is agreed that Jane will visit it will be worthwhile discussing in advance the most suitable and private space to meet.

As the weather worsens this may become increasingly more difficult. Unless the Covid situation improves significantly most contact will take place by phone or email.

Similarly, Inclusion Hampshire will not be holding on-site meetings or reviews. This includes all visitors, including teachers from referring schools.

Throughout the Autumn Term Inclusion Hampshire will be using phone calls and video conferencing services, such as Google Meet, Microsoft Teams and Zoom, wherever possible in order to minimise the risk of spreading the virus and maintain the 'bubble' we have created for learners and staff.

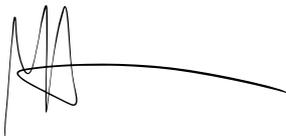
8. Return to Inclusion handbook

Finally, included with this letter is our 'Return to Inclusion handbook' The handbook will provide an overview of the safety measures we are taking and will enable learners to know what to expect when they return. It is built on the 'Inclusion Hampshire reopening protective measures' letter I sent in June.

The videos we previously sent out continue to remain helpful and valid as our arrivals and departures will be unchanged from July.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact me by email, matthew.atkinson@inclusionhampshire.org.uk, or by phone 01256 760800.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'M' followed by a long horizontal line that curves slightly upwards at the end.

Matthew Atkinson

Head of Inclusion Learning Centre