

12 November 2020

Dear parents and carers

In line with our COVID Risk Assessment, classroom layouts at Weald's Sevenoaks Campus have undergone some changes. We have made additional space available in standard classrooms by removing PE kit storage units located at the back of these classrooms.

Removing the currently unused units has allowed us to move student desks further back in the classroom, creating additional space for members of staff to move from their desk, work at the whiteboard and present to the class - all while keeping to the necessary two-metre distance from students. If staff ensure they keep that distance at all times, they can therefore remain in school even if a year bubble of students (that they teach) is sent home to self-isolate, following a positive case of COVID.

If we weren't able to guarantee this, we would run the risk of many members of staff having to isolate simultaneously.

Students have the same amount of space as previously allocated and their desks remain forward-facing, as per Department for Education guidance. We continue to encourage social distancing outside of the classroom, in order to try and avoid having to send home more students than necessary - following a confirmed case of COVID at the school.

Student desks are now aligned in standard rows but sufficient space remains for students to sit and get in (and out of) their desks as necessary. This change of layout does not put students at any greater risk from each other and, furthermore, will help reduce the risk of transmission from staff.

I hope this has helped explain our reasons for the recent changes. However, if you have any questions please email: school@wealdgs.org.

Kind regards

Mrs J Barker-Platt



Chief Operations Officer