



Leventhorpe

a business and enterprise academy

16 October 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: PE Update

I am writing to give you an update on how PE at Leventhorpe has been working so far this term and explain the rationale for some changes which we intend to make after half term.

As you are aware, since the start of term we have been asking students to come into school in their PE kit on the days which they have PE lessons. This has worked well in reducing the congestion of the changing rooms and has allowed the students to maximise the time in lessons. Our focus so far this term has been on sports which the students can participate in with good social distancing such as Cricket, Rounders and Athletics, whilst also trying to increase the student's activity levels, after a period of lock down, through fitness activities.

The recent change in the weather has presented some challenges to the current curriculum model and this is forcing us to make some changes which will be implemented after half term. Currently, when the weather is wet or too muddy, we are having to find alternative activities for students to take part in. These activities have been quite restrictive as we have limited indoor space and equipment for each year group bubble. Inclement weather has also meant that it has been difficult to engage in the wide range of sports and activities that would usually be offered to students.

To counteract these issues, we will be asking all students to come to school in full school uniform every day from the 2nd of November. On the days when they have a PE lesson they will need to bring their PE kit with them in their bag and they will then change into and out of their kit at the start and end of each lesson. They will need to ensure that they bring the kit which is appropriate to the activity which they will be participating in. These activities will be shared with the student before we break up for the half term.

We are conscious of operating within a safe working environment. To this end - and to help mitigate risk - we will be introducing the following steps -

- We will utilise all our 4 changing rooms meaning that students will be changing just with other students in their PE group, allowing more space between them
- Students will be reminded to use hand sanitiser on arrival and departure
- We will set the changing hooks at appropriate intervals to ensure social distancing around the room
- Students will always be supervised by PE staff in the changing rooms
- Students will be asked to keep their masks on whilst changing
- Internal doors will be kept open to increase ventilation whilst still ensuring privacy
- PE staff will disinfect these rooms between each lesson making sure there is no cross contamination between bubbles

By allowing the students to change into and out of their kit, we will be alleviating the risk of collapsing the PE curriculum each time the weather is bad, thus giving ourselves the best possible opportunity to deliver more traditional sports and activities suited to this time of year. We will return to teaching these activities whilst closely monitoring and following each sport's national governing bodies recommendations, as well as advice from the Association of Physical Education and the Department for Education.

These changes will now mean that all students will need to purchase the full PE kit ready to participate in a wide range of activities from the 2nd of November. A full list of items of PE kit can be found on the school web site or by following this link (<https://www.leventhorpe.net/85/uniform>).

On behalf of the PE department I'd like to thank parents for their continued support and hope that these changes will ensure that we can continue to deliver a high quality PE curriculum at Leventhorpe.

If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

Mr S Lawrence
Head of PE
SJL@leventhorpe.net