



16th July 2020

Dear Parent / Carer,

Re: Preparations for September – response to questions

Thank you to parents and carers who have contacted us this week with some lovely feedback and some useful questions after we sent out the Re-opening Guidance on Tuesday 14th July. I have tried to answer these questions below. Please remember that our plans are subject to change and we are expecting updates to the national guidance in August. We will, of course, keep you up to date with any changes to our existing plans and I will write to you again before the start of the new school year with further details.

Please can you clarify arrangements for the first week back (w/b 7th September)?

Students will attend for their designated day only (Wed Y7, Thurs Y8/9, Fri Y10/11) as explained in the plan. All students will then attend from Monday 14th September when timetables will begin in full.

How will lunches work in the first week?

Year 7 students will have the option of a set meal from the diner, free of charge. All other year groups will leave at lunchtime but there will be a grab a bag lunch available for free school meal students. Students can also bring packed lunches if they prefer. A full lunch service (altered according to guidance) will be offered from 14th September.

When will the full risk assessment be available?

The full revised risk assessment will be published on the school website before we return in September. We are currently working on this document and need to be prepared to respond to updated guidance as it is released over the summer.

Please can you clarify uniform arrangements?

All students are expected to wear uniform from the first week back (w/b 7th September). The only change to uniform rules is that blazers will be optional for the first term only.

What equipment should students bring into school as the re-opening guide only specifies a pen?

Students should bring in only the essential items required but this should include a well-stocked pencil case as you would normally have at the beginning of the year, including scientific calculator and basic maths equipment. We need to avoid sharing equipment as far as possible.

How will we maintain social distancing?

Year groups will be kept apart in 'bubbles' and have separate start/finish times, entrances/exits, breaks and lunchtimes. As per government guidance, class sizes will be as normal so students will still be sitting next to each other. We will maintain distance as far as possible within the guidance.

How will we manage hand sanitizing and cleaning of tables and chairs between lunch sittings?

Hand sanitizer stations will be available in every classroom and at key points throughout the school. Students will be required to use these (or the wash basins) at regular intervals. Tables and chairs will be cleaned between lunch sittings and also at regular intervals in classrooms.





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Can the students wear their own face masks?

As things stand, the guidance advises against this but we will continue to review the situation.

How are PE changing rooms being used?

As things stand, we intend to use the PE changing rooms and these will be cleaned regularly and subject to strict hygiene regulations. We plan to stagger entrance and exits to the changing areas to facilitate cleaning. We do not intend for the showers to be used. Again, this is subject to change.

Please look out for further updates before the beginning of the new school year via the school app, website and social media.

Thank-you for your support, take care and stay safe,

Mr Will Carr, Headteacher.

