

Dear Parents,

We are reopening to all students in September 2020. We will be following the guidance set out by the Department for Education to ensure that all students are safe.

To do this we have had to make significant changes to the way the school operates. Please read this letter with your child so that they are aware what to expect when they return to school after the summer holiday.

Form groups and Heads of Year

One of the major changes is that all form groups will be changed. All the students in each form group will be from the same year. This means that most students will have a new form tutor. To support this the Heads of House have now become Heads of Year, and there is a member of the Senior Leadership Team attached to each year group.

Head of Year 7: Mr Austin
SLT link for Year 7: Ms Dalton

Head of Year 8: To be appointed
SLT link for Year 8: Mr Lewis

Head of Year 9: Ms Robinson
SLT link for Year 9: Mr Philipasz

Head of Year 10: Mr Edwards
SLT link for Year 10: Mrs Moses

Head of Year 11: Mr Apraku
SLT link for Year 11: Mr Moore

If your child is unhappy with the form group they have been put into at the start of term then please contact their Head of Year to discuss this.

Year group bubbles and classrooms

Each year group will be treated as a 'bubble'. They will only be able to mix with students from the same year group. They will have their own outside space at lunchtime and break time. They will have their own staircase and must not use other staircases. They will also be taught in a suite of classrooms on the same floor of one of the buildings, their 'zone'. Almost all of their lessons will be in their 'zone'. Occasionally they will be scheduled to have a lesson in a specialist room (e.g. Science, Music, Design and Engineering) that is not in their zone. However, we will not be able to provide as many practical lessons in specialist rooms as they have been used to.

The teachers will move between the zones to teach their lessons, so the students will still have specialist teachers for all of their subjects.



Books, equipment and marking

We will be reissuing all the students with a different locker that will be in their zone. They should keep all of their books and equipment either in their school bag or their locker. Teachers will not be allowed to touch the students' books. This will mean that much of the work is done using chromebooks through Google Classrooms. This is where their work will be marked.

Behaviour

Teachers and support staff will have to stay two metres away from students at all times. This is going to change the way that they can behave in lessons. It also means that if students are disruptive or upset during a lesson or elsewhere they will be less able to be close to the students to support them or manage their behaviour. If students are unable to manage their behaviour and are repeatedly disruptive under these circumstances then they will be told to stay at home and complete their work through Google Classrooms. Detentions will run as normal, but these will be held after school in the year group zones.

Uniform, masks and PE kit

All students will continue to have PE lessons. However, they are not able to use the changing rooms. They should carry their trainers in their school bag on PE days. On days that students have PE they must wear their PE shorts and T shirt underneath their uniform. Also, students do not need to wear a blazer as these are not easily washable and many parents will want to wash their child's clothes more frequently. School trousers or skirts, shoes, shirts and ties must be worn at all times when they are not doing PE. School jumpers and cardigans are optional. Students, teachers and support staff do not have to wear masks. The guidelines we are following are designed such that the wearing of masks does not reduce any risk to students or staff.

Travel to school

We encourage students to walk or cycle to school to avoid public transport where possible if they feel safe to do so. If they do cycle to school then they must provide a lock to secure their bike in the school bike shed.

After school clubs and Day 10 trips

We will not be able to run any after school clubs initially. Hopefully we will be able to open up the after school club offer as the situation develops. It is likely that these will have to be for individual year groups for a while. Day 10 will continue but we will not be able to run off site trips for the first module (half term), most Day 10 activities will be based in classrooms. We will start the trips programme as soon as possible.

First day of school

On their first day back all the students will line up in the playground. Teachers will be there to tell them which line to stand in. These will be their new form groups. They will then be shown to their zones and given guidance on the new expectations and on how to stay safe, including when and how to wash their hands.



To allow us to do this safely we cannot have all students starting school on the same day. We have also staggered the start and finish times of each day to allow social distancing between students from different year groups.

Year 7. Start at 8.15 on Friday 4th September. They should **not come into school** on Monday 7th September. They will then come in every weekday from Tuesday 8th September. They should arrive by 8.15 every day.

Year 8. Start at 8.30 on Monday 7th September. They will then come into school every weekday from then on. They should arrive by 8.30 every day.

Year 9. Start at 8.30 on Monday 7th September. They will then come into school every weekday from then on. They should arrive by 8.30 every day.

Year 10. Start at 8.15 on Friday 4th September. They should **not come into school** on Monday 7th September. They will then come in every weekday from Tuesday 8th September. They should arrive by 8.15 every day.

Year 11. Start at 8.15 on Monday 7th September. They will then come into school every weekday from then on. They should arrive by 8.15 every day.

Years 12 and 13. All sixth form students start at 8.30 on Friday 4th September. They should **not come into school** on Monday 7th September. They will then come in every weekday from Tuesday 8th September. They should arrive by 8.30 every day.

