

Dear Parents/Carers

24 August 2020

Please find attached our parent/carer guide to the full re-opening of our school next week.

This guide aims to capture the majority of the changes in the way school will be working for the foreseeable future. We've tried to include as much detail as possible, so you can get a real sense of what will stay the same and what will be different. Throughout our planning, we have used the government guidance for full re-opening, found at: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools</a>

In addition, the government has recently published the following guidance for parents/carers about the reopening of schools in September: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-in-the-autumn-term">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-in-the-autumn-term</a>

The complexities of opening our school fully are significant and varied, and a huge amount of effort has been put into making sure we are ready. When we do return, every single student and member of staff will have an important role to play in helping to ensure that we minimise the risks that COVID19 presents. As a school we are absolutely committed to the welfare and safety of everyone concerned. We know that amongst our children there have been a wide range of experiences during lockdown, but hopefully we are all agreed that getting them back into school for their education is an absolute necessity.

Our general approach for re-opening is to have a plan that gets us 'up and running' and therefore we've tried to keep things as simple as possible. This way of working may be in place for 1 or 2 terms, so there will be plenty of opportunity to adjust what we do so it looks something closer to normality.

For the first couple of weeks, at the beginning of the school day, students will be required to line-up in their form using their fire drill positions. To help with the first morning, a separate email will follow with details of your son/daughter's form group and corresponding (new) fire drill position.

A reminder that Year 7, 8 and 10 will be first attend school on Thursday 3 September, with Year 9 & 11 starting back on Friday 4 September. Timings are on page 2-3 of the guide.

Many thanks for your continued support – it is very much appreciated. We look forward to working with you to ensure this return to school is successful.

Any students with outstanding library books should bring them in on their first day back.

Yours faithfully

Alan Doust (Headteacher)

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