

Further information for parents and students.

For students–

Students need not wear school uniform in order to allow regular washing of clothes. Clothes must, however, be suitable for school.

Students must ensure that they bring a pen, pencil, ruler and calculator into school. Students will not be allowed to share equipment with others.

Students will not have access to lockers.

No food will be provided in school. You should bring your own food for break-time. Students should not eat chewing gum.

Safety –

Our Risk Assessment has been checked by the LA and will be published for all to see on our website.

Students will not be required to wear PPE but if a parent wishes their child to wear a plain face covering we will not object. The DFE document ‘implementing protective measures in education and childcare settings’ gives further information – see the appendix to this letter.

Students will be greeted at the gate by a senior teacher and the 2 metre rule will be applied from that point. They will then proceed to their classroom following a marked route. On entrance, they will wash their hands and the rules explained clearly. They will then proceed to their allocated classroom. At the end of the lesson, a similar process will apply in reverse. The 3 bubbles – year 10, year 12, and children of key workers will be kept separate at all times.

We have been preparing for the return of students for many weeks. In school we have hand sanitizers, anti-viral wipes, anti-viral sprays, paper towels, rubber gloves, plastic aprons, extra goggles, face masks, lidded-bins for waste, sanitizers at entrances, extra entrances, door wedges for classrooms, a signposted one way system, floor marking for social distancing. We have also decommissioned the hand dryers and air conditioning.

If a student or member of staff begins to show symptoms of covid-19 they will be isolated immediately and sent home. If tested positive their entire “bubble” of 10 students and 3 teachers will have to isolate for 14 days.

The school has been cleaned each day since lockdown began. There will always be a cleaner on site. All rooms will be cleaned after being used.

Classroom windows and doors will be open at all times to provide ventilation.

We have full PPE for our first aiders and sufficient toilets for students and staff. Only one person will be allowed in a toilet at any one time.

The government has stated that teachers' in non-residential schools do not need PPE. We do however have stocks of face masks, visors, gloves and aprons but the current thinking is that these would only need to be used if a member of staff was dealing directly with a symptomatic child or colleague. The very best hand and respiratory hygiene, regular cleaning and the minimising of contact and mixing will be the main form of protection for staff and pupils.

It will be important for parents to adhere to a number of guidelines, especially:

No-one should enter the school grounds or buildings if they are displaying any symptoms of coronavirus and they should be kept away from school. These are a high temperature, a new continuous cough or loss of taste or smell. Parents should drop off and pick up away from the school, minimise contact with others and not be around the school gates.

If a child lives with family members vulnerable because of health conditions they should follow government advice on 'shielding'.

Parents should always be contactable in light of the government's 'Test and Trace' approach should a member of the community become ill. The guidance states "Where a setting has a positive case, Public Health England will advise the appropriate course of action, and the relevant group of people with whom the individual has mixed closely should be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 14 days."

Parents must explain to students the importance of social distancing, good hygiene and following instructions at all time.

We will ask all parents and students to sign a new Home School Agreement to confirm all the above.

We are complying with all health and safety guidelines issued by the government, Public Health England and the Health and Safety unit. Guidance from the government will continue to be issued over the coming weeks and months, and we will constantly be reviewing our approach, implementing changes where necessary and updating our policies and procedures. We will notify you as always of significant changes.

Useful links for further information -

DFE guidance on PPE in schools

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings>

DFE guidance for return of Year 10 and 12

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preparing-for-the-wider-opening-of-schools-from-1-june/planning-guide-for-secondary-schools>