

04 September 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers

Update - A fantastic start to the term

Firstly, can I thank you for your overwhelming support this week and over the summer. It has been fantastic to visit lessons this week and a privilege to see the learning that has taken place. I am delighted to share with you that our attendance has been above 97% every day and our students have responded exceptionally well to the new measures put in place. I am incredibly proud of them all.

Face Coverings

Today, your child has received their three face coverings that can be washed and re-used. Each year group has a different colour and all students must wear their school mask. This will allow students to wear one on Monday, one Tuesday and one on Wednesday; Monday's and Tuesday's can be washed Wednesday ready for Thursday and Friday. In this way students start each day with a fresh clean mask. Face coverings are now part of the standard school uniform.

Buses

The 95 bus has been renamed the 495 to allow 60 students get on when it picks up inside the academy site. If your child catches a 95 there is only a capacity of 17. We will continue to monitor the situation.

Timings

As we continue to review our provision to maximise health, safety and learning across the academy we have slightly altered timings for Y7,8 and 9 (see table below). Please remember that students are not allowed onto the school site until 8:10am.

- Year 8 and Year 9 now have a starting time of 8:35am.
- To ensure Year 7 get onto the bus first lessons will end at 2:20pm so they can be walked down to the bus bays for 2:25pm.

Your child has been out of school for almost six months and we will do everything in our power to support them to catch up and enjoy being back with their friends and staff.

COVID reminder

The [main symptoms of COVID-19](#) are:

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

To help us keep the school safe and open, please do not send your child into school if they are feeling ill and especially if they have even just one of the symptoms listed above. If students are poorly and show any of these symptoms, we will contact their parents to come into school to collect them from our Covid-19 isolation room. You will also receive a letter if we have to send your child home because they are symptomatic. Students who are symptomatic will not be allowed back into school until they have been tested for Covid-19 and school has been able to verify the result of the test.

Students who show any of the main symptoms of Covid-19 must be tested for the virus. Details of how to be tested can be found [here](#). If in any doubt, please keep your child at home.

Year group reminders

Year Group	Start time	Path	Entrance to School	Waiting Area	Year bubble location	Finish time
7	8:20am	left hand side	East	MUGA	Level 3 – West and Atrium	2:20pm
8	8:35am	left hand side	Bike Shed	Astroturf	Level 2 – South, pavilion and East	2:35pm
9	8:35am	right hand side	Main	Main	Level 3 – North and West	2:30pm
10	8:20am	Middle path	Main	Outside main entrance	Level 1	2:20pm
11	8:20am	right hand side	North	Direct to period 1	Level 2 North and East	2.25pm

Secondary school guidance link - Government's guidance about the full reopening of schools in September, which can be found [here](#)

Thank you again for your support and cooperation. It has been a great privilege to welcome our students back into school and I look forward to seeing them all next week..

Yours sincerely



Elaine Briggs
Principal