



10th July 2020

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Outline arrangements for the start of the Autumn Term 2020

I hope this finds you well?

I thought it would be useful to write to give some outline details of the new school year to allow for you to plan as a family. You will already be aware that we are currently organising our response to the Government (Department for Education- DfE) guidance released last week for the full reopening of all schools. The Government expectation is that all students will attend school full time for their full curriculum from September 2020.

We are delighted to be able to look forward to welcoming our students back to the school in September, even though the school experience on site will look and feel slightly different due to the requirements of the DfE guidance all schools have to adhere to. Most notably, individual year groups will normally be required to be sited in separate zones of the school in year group 'bubbles'. As we have been operating since lockdown in March, our key priority is the safety of all students and staff. If COVID-19 control measures are reintroduced or the Government guidance changes the following will be amended.

First week back in school

To allow us to carefully and safely introduce our new way of working we will be welcoming all students into school as follows, over the course of the first week, with all students attending school by Friday 11th September. All students will be attending full school days from Monday 14 September.

Monday 7th September	Staff Training Day - School closed	
Tuesday 8th September	Year 7 Welcome Day Year 13 Return AM / Year 12 Return PM (further details to follow)	Normal school uniform Sixth Form dress code
Wednesday 9th September	Year 10 Return Year 12 & 13, Year 7 in school	
Thursday 10th September	Year 8 & 11 Return Year 12 & 13, Year 10 & 7 in school	
Friday 11th September	Year 9 Return Year 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13 in school	

The school day

Further details will follow about the internal structure and timings of the school day to ensure we maintain the integrity of our year group bubbles, but please be advised that the start and end times of the school day will remain the same (lessons start at 8.40 and end at 3.15).

Uniform

As we explained in a recent letter, our hope in September is that students in Year 9 and 10 move into the new school uniform, leaving Year 11 only in the legacy uniform. We are not enforcing this, as we are always mindful of the costs of new uniforms for families, especially in the current circumstances. However if you are buying a uniform please purchase the new uniform. This is in preparation for September 2021 when we will expect all Y7-Y11 students regardless of year group to be wearing the new uniform. Chalks Shop is already successfully running an appointment service and aims to extend this even further in coming weeks.

PE lessons

Our fantastic PE department is busy looking at how they can deliver the PE curriculum with the restrictions that are in place as a result of the DfE guidance. To begin with we will not be using our changing rooms. This means that on a day a student has PE we will ask them to wear their TGS school PE uniform to school and stay wearing it all day. This will come into force from the second week of term, w/b Monday 14th September 2020 and remain under review.

Lockers

As a result of DfE guidance, students will not have access to lockers and we would encourage them to only bring what they require for a day to school.

Catering

To accommodate year groups taking breaks and lunches at different times our catering team will be providing a selection of food over the course of a longer period of the school day. As a result of DfE guidance, no water fountains in school can be available so students should bring water in their own plastic bottles. We will be able provide more information about school meals in the weeks to come. We will not be running a before school breakfast service.

Extra curricular/after school events

We have put routine events such as parents' evenings under review, as DfE guidance currently does not allow us to run these. Extra curricular events will similarly need to be temporarily postponed to maintain the integrity of year group bubbles. The Duke of Edinburgh award scheme is temporarily postponed.

Transport

Our transport providers have been in contact and are working with the relevant local authorities with regards to the bus services. Our understanding at this point is that all services will run in September. We believe more detailed information will become available in the weeks to come.

School photographs

We will only be offering individual photographs for our new Year 7 students and Year 12 on their first day of the new term.

Tutor Groups September 2020

All students will now have had details of their new tutor group. This has been emailed to them. One change to the information in these emails to students is in reference to tutor group bases. This is subject to change due to the need to zone the year groups together as bubbles in areas of the school.

If your child was in Wharfe House, details of their new House is in this email. If they are in Year 8, 9 or 10 in September they will be issued with a new House tie on their first day back in school, free of charge.

And finally

We will, of course, write to you all again with further details in advance of the start of the new school year.

Thank you again for all your support and forbearance over the last few months. Let's hope that the Government and prevailing conditions allow us all to return to some form of normality in the weeks to come.

On behalf of the school governors and staff of the school, I hope you have an enjoyable summer.

Regards,

Mr A Parkinson
Headteacher

