Information to parents as some year groups return to school

You will know from the government briefings and the media that secondary schools are being asked to welcome back Y10 and Y12 students, for some face-to-face teaching before the end of this term. The information below is to outline the school's strategy for this return. We know that for these students and for other year groups, remote learning will be the main delivery method until the end of the summer term; the direct contact is intended to supplement this and to allow staff to identify gaps and misunderstandings in learning, as well as to motivate students to complete tasks.

We are looking forward to welcoming your child back into school and for them to resume some face to face lessons, however we are not yet in a position to resume a normal school experience. The safety of students and staff is of the utmost importance and therefore we have put in place a number of new measures. We ask you to talk about these with your child so that they are prepared for school on the days shown in the timetable (and for some of the alterations to the normal systems). These arrangements are subject to change if the Director of Public Health in Sheffield says that it is not safe for schools to open to more students.

In the interests of the safety and wellbeing of all, please do not send your child to school if he/she or anyone on your family is showing signs of, or has been tested positive for, COVID 19 or is currently self-isolating.

Routines

Students have been grouped into small groups and will be taught the subjects shown; this is not intended to be a social event, but a learning experience. For Y12, the teaching will be based on option blocks and groups. For Y10, the list of groups has been mailed to students' school email accounts; you can then match this with the groups on the schedule.

Y12 students will come to school in normal clothes, but garments that can be washed easily. Y10 students should come to school in uniform; it is the summer term so polo shirts can be worn. For added safety, ties do not need to be worn at the moment; this means that all clothing can be put in the wash easily.

All students must bring with them their own stationary – pens and paper/exercise books.

If you are bringing your child to school, please enter the site from the Norfolk Park Road entrance and drop him/her off in the bays outside the Dining Room, exiting on to Granville Road. Current guidance is that individuals should not car share with members outside of their household. You should therefore plan your journey taking this into account. If your child is walking to school they must observe the normal social distancing measures. Students travelling on public transport must be aware of new timetables and seating restrictions. If your child is going to cycle, we will provide space for them to secure their bicycles (please provide a lock).

Students will be met at the entrance and reminded of the need for social distancing; hand sanitisers have been stationed inside the building and students will be required to use these, as well as maintaining good hand hygiene whilst they are on site.

Y12 students will be on site from 10.00am to 12 noon; lunch will not be provided and students will leave the site after the lesson.

Y10 students will be on site from 9.30am to 1.00pm. Students can bring a packed lunch or pre-order a lunch from a set menu; this will then be provided for them in a grab bag at the designated lunch time. Lunch times will be supervised; there will not be free social time. Please ensure that there is money on the ParentPay account, so that children do not have to use the cash machines; Free School Meal vouchers will continue to be issued and your child will receive a meal in school.

Lessons will take place in large rooms – these will not be the normal classrooms for that subject and each day, students will remain at the same desk for the session. Cleaning will take place in classrooms each day to ensure hygiene standards are maintained. Toilets will be cleaned mid morning and at the end of the day. All general surfaces will be wiped mid day and at the end of the day (eg handrails).

If you are collecting your child, please use the one-way system again, coming on to site via Norfolk Park Road.

If your child is in a group invited into school on a particular day, but they will not be attending, please make contact with school (preferably via the MyEd app), to let us know, so that we do not need to make contact with you.

We are delighted to be able to offer some teaching and we know that many children are keen and motivated get back into school to enhance their learning and help them to engage through to the end of the term.

If you have questions about the schedule, please contact your child's form tutor, House Progress Leader or one of the Sixth form team, via email.