

7th July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

September Arrangements

Following the government's announcement that all students will be returning to school in September, I would like to outline the initial plans we have in place to minimise the risks involved for both students and staff, therefore making this transition as smooth as possible. **It is important to note that all of the following is subject to change and I will contact you towards the end of the summer holidays as necessary.**

In order for this to be done safely, we have made the decision to stagger the start of term, with the following start dates:

- Year 7: Tuesday 8th September**
Year 11: Wednesday 9th September
Years 8, 9, 10: Thursday 10th September

The one-way system will no longer be in place. Instead, each year group will enter and leave the building via their own door and will, for the most part, have their own designated area of the school:

- Year 7: Rooms 1, 2 and 4
Year 8: Rooms 5, 6 and 7
Year 9: Rooms 13, 14 and 16
Year 10: Rooms 8, 10 and 12
Year 11: Rooms 20, 22 and 23

We will be following the full school timetable, with the full curriculum covered. For Key Stage 3 students, all lessons, with the exception of PE, will be taught in their designated rooms, with the teachers moving to each one as necessary. It is inevitable that practical subjects will not be delivered in the usual way and will be largely theory-based.

For Key Stage 4, most lessons will take place in their designated areas, but with some 'specialist' subjects being taught in appropriate classrooms (Food Technology, Design Technology, Art, ICT, Business/Enterprise and Science.) This will allow for appropriate cleaning to take place between each session or group of students.

Excellence for all


Students will be required to wear full school uniform, as per the list on the school website, but should wear their PE kit if this subject is timetabled on that particular day, as changing rooms will not be used. PE kit will not be required on their first day.

Please note that it will not be possible to safely serve school meals. All students will therefore need to bring a packed lunch, snacks and a drink. Those on free school meals will be supplied with a voucher so that all students are able to do this.

In line with the government guidance, *“It is important to consider the use of face coverings for children over the age of 11.....if they are likely to come into close contact with people outside of their group”*, **face coverings must be worn on home to school transport** (buses and taxis). Students will not be allowed to travel if they refuse to do so. Covered bins will be provided for disposable coverings, and students must bring a plastic bag with them to store reusable ones.

There are still some two months before these plans come into action and, as we are all too well aware, a lot can happen during this timeframe. There will be more details to follow nearer the time, but I hope that this letter serves as some reassurance that we are taking the necessary steps to ensure a safe and productive start to the new academic year.

If you would like to read the full guidance for the re-opening of schools, please follow this link:

<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>

In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. I am very much looking forward to welcoming all our students and staff back to Upper Wharfedale School.

With best wishes



Andrew Taylor
Headteacher