

Hi,

I hope you are all well and safe. We are now starting to put the plans together for getting all children back to school in September. Whilst getting back to normality is a very exciting prospect, we want to make sure that we do it right so that we can get everyone back in school as safely as we can.

The guidance for special schools allows for phased returns for those who need it. We will have 20 children joining us in September, as well as the changes of class for some – you will find out if this affects your child when you receive your child's report and you will receive an information pack and a phone call from your child's new teacher next week.

Staff and school preparation

There will be a lot for staff to do to prepare for the full reopening of school, including updating medical training, safeguarding training and training on the new ways of working. For this reason, we will be having three days at the beginning of the year, 1-3rd September, to make sure everything is ready for a safe return. This means we will no longer have a training day on **23rd of October** and **school will be open for students on that Friday**.

Student return

To help everyone adapt to being back in school, we will return to school as follows:

Friday 4th September - new Year 7s and a number of identified students

Monday 7th and Tuesday 8th – half of each class

Wednesday 9th - new Year 7s and a number of identified students

Thursday 10th and Friday 11th – the remaining half of the class that weren't in on Monday and Tuesday

We will let you know next week which days your child is expected in. If you have any personal circumstances that mean this is not possible please let us know asap.

Week commencing 14th September

We hope that most children will be back in school full time. However, we will monitor the first week very carefully to see if any children need a longer phased return and we will talk to you individually, as needed.

In order to follow Government guidance, young people in our school will remain in their class group at all times and this will be their 'bubble'. Each bubble will have their own room and there will be at least an hour in the playground which will be on a rota. Toilets will be allocated to area zones.

Drop offs and pick ups

We will need to stagger the start and end times of the day to avoid crowding. All transport (whether parent drop off or PTS transport) will come to the bus park.

Parent drop offs – gates close at 8.35. Students to remain in cars until asked to get out by a member of staff.

Taxi Drop offs – 8.50

Bus drop offs – 9.05

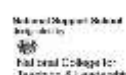
Parent pick up – gates close at 2.40

Taxi pick up -2.55

Bus pick up 3.10

We still have a lot of things to work out but I hope that the above information gives you things to start thinking about.

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CEO:
David Horn
Headteacher:
Beth McPhail
Chair of Academy Trustees:
John Winkley

Transport will be running as required. If your child is on transport, but you know already that you will be bringing them in yourself to start with, please let us know as soon as possible. If you have not decided this yet, please don't worry - we can make the adjustments nearer the time.

If you are unsure about whether your child can or should come back to school, please contact your GP or paediatrician for advice. Returning to school is compulsory in September so if you are advised that your child should not be in school, please ask your GP or paediatrician for a letter to support this.

Many thanks for your patience with all of this. If you have any questions, please feel free to ring or e-mail any of the leadership team.

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Thanks

Beth