

Dear Parent

As we approach the end of term I wanted to give you a further update on the plans we have in place for September. As you know we will be re-opening the academy full time, to all students.

The new academic year will not only see us working in a different way as a result of the Covid 19 pandemic, but also sees us moving into the new building. Consequently there will be many changes for students and staff to familiarise themselves with in the first few days. In order to support this we have put in place a staggered start to the year to allow each year group the opportunity to have the new ways of working clearly explained.

Here are the times for the start of the new academic year for each year group.

Monday 7th September 2020

9.00am - Year 7 Students

11.30am - Year 11 Students

Tuesday 8th September 2020

8.30am - Year 7 and Year 8 Students

8.45am - Year 11 Students

11.30am - Year 9 Students

Wednesday 9th September 2020

8.30am - Year 7 and Year 8 Students

8.45am - Year 9,10 and 11 Students.

From Thursday 10th of September the school day timings (to allow for staggered start and end times) will be:

Year 7 and 8 8.30am - 2.30pm

Years 9, 10 and 11 8.45am - 2.45pm

In order to facilitate the demolition of the old building all students will need to enter the site using the pedestrian entrance to the west of the site (next to the table tennis centre). There will be no access to parents or vehicles through the main school gate as a result of the building work. Staff will be on duty at the front of the site to ensure students can enter safely. Should you need to visit the school this must be by prior arrangement. Part of our risk assessment is that all visitors to the school are by appointment only and to maintain safety we will not permit any visitors onto the site without an appointment.

In order to ensure our two bubbles are kept separate we have staggered the start and end of the day. Each bubble will enter the building and move directly to their designated area. To support us with this can you please ensure that students arrive on site at the correct time;

- Year 7 and 8, arrive between 8.20am and 8.25am so that they can be in the building for registration at 8.30am

- Years 9, 10 and 11, arrive on site between 8.35am and 8.40am so that they can be in the building for lesson 1 at 8.45am.

Similarly students will be expected to leave the school site promptly, unless engaged in an after-school activity, so that we maintain the integrity of each bubble.

Some parents have asked about clarity over uniform and equipment. To help you with this we have produced a checklist of the key items students are required to have in school and the uniform expectations. As part of the covid recovery plan it is more important than ever that students are wearing freshly washed uniform each day. This does not apply to blazers or ties, since students are likely to only have one of these items and the logistics of washing each day would be impossible. With the need to minimise contact it is hugely important that students come to school with the correct equipment that will allow them to be successful.

Catering in the new building will be different and in order to ensure students remain in their bubbles and become familiar with the procedures for buying food we will be staggering lunch breaktimes from September. In order to minimise the risk to students the canteen will not be offering a service at breaktimes. Students wishing to eat during the mid-morning break will need to bring in a suitable snack. All payments for food will be cashless. In order to do this please use your parentmail account to add credit. Our plans were always to make the new building cashless, but with the measures required to stay covid secure, this has become a requirement for our safe re-opening.

Whilst changes are occurring nationally with regard to the wearing of face coverings, at the time of writing this, the guidance is that in schools there is not the need to wear any additional personal protective equipment (PPE). The most up to date guidance from the government related to face coverings in schools states “Wearing a face covering or face mask in schools or other education settings is not recommended.” Should this change we will be in touch with additional guidance.

Whilst we are all hopeful that the measures being put in place nationally will result in a continued decline in new cases, we have to be prepared for the potential of a localised outbreak and with it a further period of lockdown. Our work over recent weeks to develop safe and appropriate methods for delivering live lessons means that should a further period of lockdown be implemented we will be in a position to provide additional support for home learning. We will be working with all students upon their return to ensure that they are familiar with the systems and procedures for working in this way.

I very much hope that we have provided you with sufficient information with regard to the re-opening of the school in September. If you do have further questions please do email me (j.daniels@oeacademy.co.uk) so that we can alleviate any additional concerns or anxieties.

We are all very much looking forward to welcoming back all our students in September and saying hello to a new cohort of year 7 students. I would like to thank you all for your continued support over the past two terms. I am exceptionally proud of the way in which the staff and students have dealt with such a challenging situation and feel certain that as a community we will continue to work effectively to provide the very best opportunities for all.

We have attached our Summer Newsletter with this bulletin to showcase a small selection of the amazing work that has taken place over the past 2 terms.

I wish you and your families a safe and restful summer break and look forward to seeing you all in September.

Take care

J.Daniels
Principal - Ormiston Endeavour Academy