

Parent Bulletin Friday 10th July 2020

Dear Parent

I hope you are all well.

Since writing to you last week we have been working hard to put together a plan for re-opening the school to all students in September. It has been confirmed by the Government that all students are expected to return to school in September and that attendance will be compulsory.

The government guidance has been used to develop our plans and we have a risk assessment which is under constant review and development as we do all we can to deliver effective learning in a safe environment.

As a relatively small secondary school we are able to place all students into two “bubbles”. Whilst larger schools have year groups that exceed 300 students, our bubbles will contain no more than 280 students. Arranging students in these two bubbles not only allows us to ensure we are minimising the risks for students, it also allows us to operate the school in a way which poses the least disruption to learning.

Each bubble will have its own start and finish time. Floors in the new school building have been allocated to the bubbles to again reduce the risks to students and staff.

Hygiene will be a priority for all members of the school community. Classrooms will all have hand sanitiser and sanitising materials to ensure the risk of spread is reduced. Students will be reminded to wash hands regularly and will be encouraged to bring tissues to school to ensure effective respiratory hygiene (Catch It, Bin It, Kill It).

Lunchtimes for the two bubbles will be staggered and we will maximise the use of outdoor spaces at social times since we know the risk of infection is greatly reduced when outdoors. As mentioned last week the academy will be cashless from September. This allows us to adhere to one aspect of our risk assessment. All payments from September must be made through ParentMail. A guide to using ParentMail can be found at www.parentmail.co.uk/customers/parents/ . If you need further support do please let us know.

Teaching will be different when students return in September. In order to ensure the smooth running of lessons it is vitally important that all students come to school correctly equipped. We will not be able to share basic equipment with students so students must bring their own:

Pen, pencil, ruler, eraser, calculator (these can be purchased from the school via parentmail). Additionally there will be no facility for students to fill water bottles, for safety reasons, so please ensure a filled bottle of water is part of the equipment brought in each day.

There will be clear and robust procedures in place should a student display any symptoms. These would include working with the Public Health England regional team should it be necessary. With regard to students displaying symptoms there are a few key points of which you need to be aware:

- It is vital we have up to date contact details (mobile and email). We require 3 different contacts for students. Please inform us of any changes to contact details.
- If you notice anyone in your household develops symptoms (high temperature, new cough, loss of taste) you must not send your child to school.
- Track and trace is open to anyone displaying symptoms. If a student shows symptoms a test must be arranged (home kit or drive through). Students who have displayed symptoms will not be allowed back to school until they have had either a negative test result or, if positive, within 7 days of the symptoms. In the event of a positive test we will take the necessary actions in school.

Our usual high expectations for student behaviour will remain when we re-open in September. With the increased risks of physical contact, deliberately poor hygiene or refusal to follow clear instructions will not be tolerated. We will talk with all students about the risks associated with such behaviours and would welcome you having similar conversations. We want to ensure that, working in partnership, we can maintain a calm, safe and effective learning environment for all students.

In addition to all the changes we need to put in place to ensure we are Covid secure, we will of course be moving into our new building and will need to orientate students to their new surroundings. As a result of these two significant changes we have decided to stagger the start of the school year.

Here are the starting times for the new year groups

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.

Then beginning 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

There is a huge amount of information linked to the re-opening of the school and we want to ensure you are kept informed, but not overwhelmed. To provide a quick overview we have produced a simple video. The video can be accessed through this link [Re-opening Guide](#).

Take care

J.Daniels
Principal - Ormiston Endeavour Academy