

Dear parent/carer

I hope this finds you all well. You will have heard that the guidance for the full opening of schools in September was published recently. I have attached a link to a guide for parents at the bottom of this letter.

The guidance states that the circumstances have changed since schools were closed to most pupils in March, in that the prevalence of Covid-19 has decreased. It states that a return to school for all students is vital and that the risk to children is very low. To that end, the plans are to welcome all children back to school, full-time, in September but we will be asked to minimise the number of contacts that a pupil has during the school day as part of implementing the system of controls outlined in the guidance to reduce the risk of transmission. There will of course be many implications for us to work through as we aim to get all pupils and staff back in school and I would like to thank you for your patience and understanding again as we formulate our plan. We will write to you again before the start of the new term to explain what we will be doing to ensure the safe re-opening of our school in September. I know you will have lots of questions and we will be able to give you some further clarity as soon as we can - in the meantime please take the time to read the guidance for parents below.

Whilst joining high school is undoubtedly an exciting time for our young people, we understand that students who are joining us in Year 7 this September have not had the benefits of the usual transition programme in Year 6 and so the prospect of arriving for their first day with us may feel daunting. In recognition of this, we have made the decision to structure the first week back differently to previous years to ensure that our new students have time to settle in.

Monday 31 August is a Bank Holiday and the school will be closed. There will be a Training Day for all staff on Tuesday 1 September. **Year 7 will then be in school Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Only Year 7 students will be in school on the first two days (Wednesday and Thursday) and then on Friday they will be joined by the rest of the school who will be coming in for time with the tutors.** Throughout the three days they are in school, Year 7 will be involved in a range of activities which will allow them to spend time with their tutor and their form class, meet key staff, find their way around the building and learn more about routines and expectations in their new school. **The full timetable will then begin on Monday 7th September.**

**Year 7 students are to arrive in school on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September at 8.30, in full uniform and equipped with school bag containing pencil case, pen, pencil ruler as a minimum.** Staff will be at the main entrance to greet them and take them to their form class. The school canteen will be open for lunch. **We are moving to a cashless system for school meals but please send your child in with money to purchase lunch on the first day.** £2.60 will be sufficient to buy a substantial meal. If you are currently in receipt of free school meals this will be carried forward to our system and so a meal will be provided without charge.

Please also check the Year 6 Transition area on our school website for further information and guidance on transition to high school.

We are all very much looking forward to welcoming our new students to our school and getting to know them in the first week back after the summer break.

With very best wishes,

Mrs Dunn

Mr Bell

Mr Wilkinson

<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>



[What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges in the autumn term - GOV.UK](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)

This guidance is for parents and carers of children at: registered nurseries and childminders (this includes nurseries, childminders, pre-schools, playgroups and maintained nursery schools)

[www.gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk)