



July 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Arrangements for September 2020

I hope you are all safe and well.

The great news is that we will be open in September to ALL students!

We have been open to vulnerable students and essential workers' children ever since the lockdown began. We have welcomed back our Year 10 students over recent weeks. On any one day now there are over 50 students and 10 members of staff on site.

Since March not one person, student or staff, has contracted the virus in school.

We have spent a great deal of time ensuring that we have followed the government's guidance about the full reopening of schools in September, which can be found [here](#). Whilst the threat of spreading Covid-19 still exists, we have put in place a number of new arrangements to ensure we minimise further the threat of spreading the virus whilst delivering a full curriculum for our students.

We feel certain that school is as safe as it can possibly be and we want to welcome back every single one of our students in September, including those with certain medical needs who may have been classified as clinically vulnerable or clinically extremely vulnerable during the lockdown.

If you have any queries regarding your child's SEND or medical needs, please contact Ruth O'Neill our SENDCO: roneill@fs.ebor.academy

There is a lot to communicate, so I will be brief.

As you will see, for the first half-term school will operate quite differently to normal. Students will have to take much greater responsibility for their conduct than ever before. We will be working together to ensure that the school is a safe place to work and study, and that we minimise the risk of spreading the virus so that we can remain open.



I have bullet-pointed the key headlines below and then given greater detail in the main section of the letter:

- **All students will be back in school in September and online provision for remote learning will cease.**
- **The students will follow their normal timetable, within their normal classes for each subject.**
- **We will create Key Stage “bubbles” and keep these bubbles separate, especially at social times.**
- **We will operate a strict one-way system in school. Students will be shown this in detail on their first day back in September.**
- **We will alter the structure of the school day, but the start and finish times will remain the same.**
- **Staff will be able to move between the “bubbles” so that we can have the right teachers in front of the right classes at the right time.**
- **There will be minimal practical work.**
- **There will be no extra-curricular activities.**
- **We will review the situation the week beginning 5 October 2020 and aim to return to our normal school arrangements for the second half of the autumn term.**

IMPORTANT: Students showing signs of

illness The [main symptoms of Covid-19](#) are:

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

To help us keep the school safe and open, please do not send your child into school if they are feeling ill and especially if they have even just one of the symptoms listed above. If students are poorly and show any of these symptoms, we will contact their parents to come into school to collect them from our Covid-19 isolation room. If in any doubt, please look after your child at home.

Students who show any of the main symptoms of Covid-19 must be tested for the virus. Details of how to be tested can be found [here](#). School reception will give you a letter if we have to send your child home because they are symptomatic. Students who are symptomatic will not be allowed back into school until they have been tested for Covid-19 and school has been able to verify the result of the test.

Preventing the spread of the virus

There are five major steps we must take to prevent the spread of the virus and students will be expected to cooperate fully to help us ensure those five major steps are implemented every single day of school:

1. Minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school.
2. Clean hands thoroughly more often than usual.
3. Ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach.
4. Introduce enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often, using standard products such as detergents and bleach.
5. Minimise contact between individuals and maintain social distancing wherever possible.

We are not expected to implement strict social distancing between students but are being asked to put in place structures to reduce the likelihood and scale of any transmission of Covid-19. Students should maintain a social distance from each other where they can; furthermore, *touching other people in school is prohibited*. Where possible, we want to ensure that adults in the school maintain 2 metre social distancing from other adults and students.

Behaviour standards

In these extraordinary circumstances, we expect our students to behave responsibly and to help us run school safely. We have faith in our young people to step up to the plate to help us run school safely and effectively.

It follows, then, that poor behaviour will not be tolerated. Parental support for our high standards and expectations will be crucial in helping us run school, and I would like to thank you in advance for your help in emphasising to your children how important it is that they play their part in the full reopening of school.

Arrangements for the first week of term

The school term begins on Monday 7 September 2020. The details for that week are as follows:

- Monday 7 September 2020: Staff training day – school closed to students;
- Tuesday 8 September 2020: School open from 1:10pm to Year 7 students only.
- Wednesday 9 September 2020 onwards: School open to all students.

Travelling to school

We strongly encourage students to walk or cycle to school. We are working with the school bus companies and the Local Authority and will finalise arrangements for travelling to school by the school bus service over the summer. The Local Authority will be in contact with parents regarding the new arrangements towards the end of August.

It will help if individual students can sit in roughly the same seat every time s/he uses the school bus. This will help us track and trace any students who may be affected if one student tests positive for Covid-19. One of our buses, the Shoreline 343S service, is classed as a public bus and so students aged 11 or over must wear a face mask. A system will be in place to safely remove and dispose of non-reusable masks at the start of each day. Reusable masks must be safely stored in students' bags.

Whether students cycle to school or walk, to help us contain any spread of the virus, they should not mix with students from outside their bubble.

Entering the school site

Students should not gather in large groups around the site but make their way immediately to their first period. Once inside the buildings, sanitiser will be available. On the first morning, we will inform students which room they will register in.

The School Day

We will have new timings to the school day to minimise movement on corridors, at lockers and at social times.

Day 1 only: Wednesday 9 September		KS4 students		KS3 students	
0830 – 0835 KS4	Lockers	0830-0835	Lockers	0835 - 0840	Lockers
0835 – 0840 KS3	Lockers				
0840 – 1310	Form time	0840 – 0940	Period 1	0840 – 0940	Period 1
Including 35 min Lunch break	Routines & Wellbeing	0940 – 1000	Break	0940 – 1040	Period 2
		1000 – 1100	Period 2	1040 – 1100	Break
		1100 – 1200	Period 3	1100 – 1200	Period 3
1200 – 1235	KS3 lunch Lockers	1200 – 1235	Lunch	1200 – 1235	Form time
		1230 - 1235	Lockers		
1235 – 1310	KS4 lunch Lockers	1235 – 1310	Form time	1235 – 1310	Lunch
				1305 - 1310	Lockers
1310 – 1410	P4	1310 – 1410	Period 4	1310 – 1410	Period 4
1410 – 1510	P5	1410 – 1510	Period 5	1410 – 1510	Period 5

We will still finish at 2:10pm on a Week A Monday.

At the end of the day, we will stagger students leaving their classrooms by a few minutes, so that we minimise the mixing of students. Students who have walked or cycled to school should leave the site immediately. Students travelling home in taxis or on the school buses will sit in separate areas of the Dining Room.

If students are late for school, they should report to reception and a member of staff will ensure they get to their teaching room safely.

Toilets and drinking water

Following the advice of Public Health England, we are focusing some of our increased hygiene practices around toilets, which need, for obvious reasons, to be kept extremely clean. Consequently, we are expecting students to manage the day so that they do not have to go to the toilet during lessons unless it is an absolute emergency. At break and lunch only one student is allowed in a toilet at a time. Any students found hanging around in toilets unnecessarily will face disciplinary consequences. Drinking water fountains have been turned off as they are a potential site for spreading the virus. If your child wants to drink water during the school day, he or she must bring their own full drinking bottle with enough water to last for the day. We will also have a supply of bottled water for sale at break and lunchtime.

Lunchtimes

We have staggered lunchtime as the areas for students within their bubbles are very limited.

Before and after school

For the first half-term there will be no before or after school provision in school. We will review the situation regarding both of these aspects of our provision on a weekly basis.

School Uniform

Usual expectations regarding school uniform will apply and we will expect our students to maintain their usual high standards. Mobile phones should not be brought into school.

Equipment

Students should ensure that they bring their full range of classroom equipment/stationery into school with them as students cannot share equipment and staff will not be able to give students spare equipment due to the threat of spreading the virus. A full list of required equipment and stationery will be published on the school website. Students should bring a coat as indoor spaces may be colder than normal due to us having to ensure good ventilation. If it is cold in class, teachers will be able to let students wear coats if necessary. Students will spend break and lunch in the Dining Room or in their zone outside unless it is raining hard, so please make sure your child has a good coat for the winter.

Practical Work and PE

There will be very little practical work in the first half-term to minimise the risk of spreading the virus. Where possible PE will be undertaken in school uniform to minimise the need to use changing rooms.

Bags and Lockers

Students will be allowed to carry their bags with them from lesson to lesson and so this will minimise the need to use their locker. Students will only have access to their lockers at specific times. Students will not be allowed out of their classroom to go to their lockers and so it is important that they keep everything they need with them.

Finally

The government will be sending schools further guidance on 11 August 2020. As you will be aware, things can change quickly when it comes to the spread of the virus. ***We will be sending further information to parents over the summer, as things progress.***

We feel confident that our students will rise to the considerable challenge we all face and play their part in ensuring a successful full reopening of school. If you have any queries over the coming weeks, please contact me at tcartmail@fs.ebor.academy

To finish I would like to thank all the students, staff, parents and governors who have worked so hard together to keep our school open and to keep our students studying, in school or remotely, throughout the pandemic. We will hit the ground running in September and, with a bit of luck, we will soon be able to return to some kind of normality.

I hope you have a lovely summer and that the sun shines upon us all!

With kindest regards and warmest wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "T. Cartmail".

Terry Cartmail
Headteacher