

Thursday 27th August 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

September Re-opening Details

We are really looking forward to welcoming our students back into the Academy. The staff cannot wait to see the students again and get back to our core business of teaching and helping our students achieve.

Plans for the re-opening

Following the updated government guidance, I am pleased that we can finally provide a plan for the re-opening next week. The biggest addition will be the permitting of the wearing of face masks/coverings within the Academy. Students are encouraged to bring in face masks/coverings and wear them whilst transitioning around the Academy building. I would ask that the face masks/coverings are appropriate in design for an academy setting. There is further guidance available within the Learning Community Trust risk assessment, available on the Academy website, regarding the safe use and storage of the masks/coverings.

There will be necessary changes to how we operate day to day. We will be relentless in ensuring students and staff return to the Academy happy, safe and well looked after. In order for the plan to work, there will be a drive to ensure rules and routines are correctly adhered to by the students. Students will be introduced to the new systems during the first few days to ensure they have a thorough understanding of what is expected, so that we have a safe Academy.

Full guidance on the new expectations can be found at:

<http://www.ercallwood.co.uk/covid-19-updates>

We have been working with our Governors, Trade Unions and the Learning Community Trust to put a plan together that provides as much normality to the Academy day as possible whilst meeting the expectations laid out in the government guidance, a link for which can be found below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>

At previously shared, the Academy year will start on:

- Wednesday 2nd September for Year 7 only.
- Thursday 3rd September for Years 7, 10 and 11.
- Friday 4th September for all year groups.

This staggered start will allow us to incrementally build the number of students on the academy site to test the plans and procedures in place. Students are to return in full Academy uniform, this includes an Academy blazer.



One of the many recommendations from the government is that we have staggered start and finish times for different year groups, so the times will be as follows:

Year	Start Time	Entry	Finish Time	Entry and Exit Point
7	08:45	Student entrance	14:53	Student entrance
8	09:05	Side entrance (MUGA)	14:55	Student entrance
9	09:05	Side entrance (MUGA)	15:00	Student entrance
10	09:05	Side entrance (MUGA)	15:04	Student entrance
11	08:45	Student entrance	15:08 (Unless they have an additional learning session)	Student entrance

- The Academy gates will be open 20 minutes before students are due to start but students will **not** be allowed into the building until their start time.
- Students should aim to get to the Academy 5 minutes before their start time, and we are happy for students to wait on either the MUGA (Years 8,9,10) from 8:45am or on the outside basketball courts (Years 7, 11) from 8:30am.
- Students in Years 7 & 11 are to use the student entrance and Years 8, 9 & 10 will enter through the entrance of the MUGA on the opposite side. Year 8, 9 & 10 will be directed to use different sections and areas to ensure year groups do not mix.
- Finish times will be staggered and students will be dismissed a year group at a time as detailed in the table above.

In addition to the measures above we will also implement the following:

- Year groups to remain together throughout the school day and operate as a “bubble”.
- Staggered break and lunchtimes, built into lessons 2 and 4 (Students will be able to spend some time at break and lunch outside)
- A one-way system that all staff and students must follow.
- Sanitiser stations on entry to the academy.
- No extra-curricular clubs to operate in the first month, including breakfast and homework clubs.

Our canteen will be open but will be offering a limited menu in the first instance, where possible we would ask that you top up money for school meals via our school website under <http://ercallwood.co.uk/parents/school-meals> rather than students bringing money into the Academy.

A lot of time and effort has been put in to ensuring that we are operating safely for all students and staff, alongside delivering a curriculum in which we can address knowledge gaps and support our students with their learning and progress.

Finally, I would like to thank our Parents and Carers for the kind words and support given for our efforts to ensure that the Academy is safe for all and students are back safely, making academic progress and achieving.

Kind regards



Mr R Gummery
Principal