

14th July 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

September Re-opening Details

As we come to the end of a very different school year, I would like to reiterate my words from the academy newsletter and thank families for all their support, kind words and feedback over the past term. It has been great to have more students safely in the building over the past four weeks. We will be constantly monitoring the government advice and guidance as any updates come through during the summer to ensure the safe reopening for all students in September.

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.

Plans from September

We have been working with our governors, 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, found below:

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

At present, the school 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 school uniform.

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



Year	Start Time	Finish Time	Entry and Exit Point
7	08:45	15:00 – 15:05	Student entrance
8	09:05	15:00 – 15:05	Side entrance (MUGA)
9	09:05	15:00 – 15:05	Side entrance (MUGA)
10	09:05	15:00 -15:05	Side entrance (MUGA)
11	08:45	15:00 - 15:05	Student entrance

- The academy gates will be open from 8:30am, 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, but we are happy for students to wait on either the MUGA (years 8,9,10) 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 to the entrance of the MUGA on the opposite side.
- Finish times will be staggered and students will be dismissed one zone at a time.

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.

As with many aspects of the government response to the COVID-19, things can change very quickly. At this time the Learning Community Trust (LCT) have approved our opening plans for September, this along with the LCT generic risk assessment can be found on our website here:

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

We look forward to welcoming our students back in September. Please check our website for any updates.

Please have a lovely summer holiday, keep safe and well and take time to relax and recharge for a busy year ahead.

Kind regards



Mr R Gummery
Principal