



Monday 13th July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

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September 2020: Opening for all students

Following the Government announcement that secondary schools are to open for all students from September, I am writing to you to let you know of our plans. We have been working hard behind the scenes to ensure that we have the right Risk Assessment in place following all of the Government guidance and of course continue to work with the other schools in the Trust.

When does my child return to school?

The week beginning Monday 7th September 2020 is Student Induction week. By the time this week begins your child will have been out of full time school for 7 months. With 1572 students we have to make sure that we bring all of our students back in a controlled way to ensure the well-being and safety of all.

During your child's induction day they will have the following:

- A meet and greet session with their form tutor who they will spend most of the day with
- Time to go through their timetable from week beginning 14th September.
- A well-being session
- An ICT session to ensure that all students know how to learn remotely from home and some new ways of working
- A tour of the school with the new layout and safety guidelines and the areas that they will work in linked to the Risk Assessment.
- They will bring home an induction newsletter so that you can see what they have been doing.
- A personal target setting session and future ambitions input
- An assembly with the Headteacher, Senior leaders and Year Team Leader
- A 'readiness to learn' lesson.
- Bespoke year group activities

It is imperative that your child attends on their induction day as they would miss such vital, very new, information if they were not there and it is so important for the safety of the whole community.

Monday 7th September – new Y7

Tuesday 8th September – Y8 and new Y12

Wednesday 9th September – Y9

Thursday 10th September – Y10

Friday 11th September – Y11 and Y13

They must only come in on the one day as shown above. The other 4 days they will be learning from home and work packs are being posted out during the last week of term before we break for the summer.

Headteacher: Tina Smith
CEO, Beckfoot Trust: David Horn
Chair of Academy Trustees: John Winkley

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What should they wear on their induction day? What time should they arrive and leave? What should they bring?

Please class this as a normal school day. They should wear their school uniform, arrive no earlier than 8.15am but before 8.25am. They will leave school at 2.40pm. They can bring a packed lunch or buy food as usual from the dining room. They should bring their own water as the water fountains to fill up are not available. Please bring usual school bag and equipment. PE kit is not needed on Induction day. Please can I remind you that we wrote to you in June about the uniform and this can be found on the website or on page 3 of the family handbook.

How will school work from the week beginning 14th September?

From Monday 14th September 2020 all students in all year groups will be back in school. Attendance is compulsory. School will be very different to how students left it in March but they will still start and end school at the same time and still be taught all of their subjects by their specialist teachers. We have a full Risk Assessment in place which can be viewed on the school website in the important information section. The safety of our students and staff will always come first. Following the Government Guidance we wanted to highlight some key principles and changes:

- We have reduced the opportunities for movement during the school day
- We will run a 2 week timetable in order for this to happen. Week A and Week B. Week A will begin on Monday 14th September.
- Each year group is a bubble. One bubble cannot mix with another.
- All adults must remain 2m away from students whenever possible.
- We have put in 3 breaks and 3 lunches in order to get all students through safely. 2 year groups will be on at any given time allowing for separation of bubbles. The usual food is available but packed lunches are encouraged to reduce the queues. There will be no breakfast service as the atrium will not be accessible before school.
- We have created 'zones' for year group bubbles, for example Y8 will be based only on the English corridor classrooms. Doors and windows will be open for good air circulation. If students are cold they should wear t-shirts/vests underneath their school polo shirt and wear their school jumper/cardigan.
- We have put in place a staggered entry for each year group through a different door into the building, for example Y11 only through student reception.
- Old passes for the few students who use Ingrow lane entrance will no longer be valid as this means bubbles are mixing and they would have to go through the zone of a different bubble to get into school putting the safety of many at risk. Mr Slater will be in touch with a couple of families about this. Otherwise please use the entrance designated to the bubble that your child is in.
- We have a one-way system in operation for all staff and students to keep everyone safe.
- We are retaining our broad and balanced curriculum as much as possible and are retaining our current setting or groupings where possible.
- We are allowing access to specialist rooms for Y10-13. Wherever possible classroom desks will face forward.
- There will be some staggered dismissal but a limited impact on learning time (leaving from 2.25 to 2.40pm)
- We will be reverting to the planned timetable as soon as health and safety guidance allows.
- The students will not be able to access lockers except on their induction day if they have something in there from March that they need to take home. This is because lockers are now not necessarily where student zone are.
- Each year group has a designated space including outside and access to half of the atrium at break and lunchtime.
- Hand sanitizer is at the entrance to every classroom and frequent hand washing will take place.
- Staff and students can wear face masks if they want to but they do not have to.



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Information about travelling to school

I know as families you will be considering carefully what the safest way is for your child to get to school. We encourage walking whenever possible. If you are bringing your child to school in the car please drop them off as usual but don't get out of the car on school grounds. Your child can cycle to school. There is a bike locker in the new car park if students come down the drive and there is one by the rugby pitch for those who come up from the bus bay. The school bus service will resume from Monday 7th September, however please follow the guidance about travelling on this kind of transport. I need to remind students' that if they are on a school bus they must wear a face covering, not sit with students who are in another year group to them and wash hands before and after using the bus. School starts at 8.25am but no one should be on site before 8.15am. School finishes at 2.40 with some starting to be dismissed from 2.25pm.

Year group entrance and zones

Please look at the Climate for Learning Family Handbook that is on the website and which you will receive a paper copy of in July. To keep everyone safe each year group is one bubble and they cannot mix with another. I hope the table on page 4 helps.

Symptoms

Attendance at school is compulsory from September. However, if students feel unwell, or have tested positive for Covid-19 in the last 7 days they must not attend school. If your child is displaying symptoms they should get tested for Covid-19. In addition, households should isolate for 14 days if someone in the household displays symptoms or they are told to by NHS Track and Trace. Please refer to the 'Guidance for Households with Possible Coronavirus Infection', which is in the important information section of the website.

Student Risk Assessments.

If you think your child needs a risk assessment to return to school and Mr Slater has not already contacted you, please email the email address at the top of this letter.

Communication with Families

We will not be encouraging any visitors to come onto school site, this includes parents. If you want to get in touch with us please refer to the contact information at the front of your child's planner or use the contact information at the top of this letter. We will update our website frequently and ensure that we communicate to you via text, phone call and MyEd. We hope to be able to resume Parents Evening in the Spring term. Please do not just turn up at school. We are really pleased to announce that we have 2 new teams of staff in school from September working directly with students and families. The Family handbook sets it out clearly but just to mention we have 3 colleagues working as Attendance and Family engagement team and 5 colleagues in the new student wellbeing team. Look out for the information in the Family handbook.

We are all very much looking forward to seeing everyone in September. All the staff have missed our students so much. The Government are due to give further information on 11th August and we will update you further if we have to make any changes following that date. Best wishes to all of our families and I hope this letter finds you well. See you in September students!

Take care.



Tina Smith
Headteacher

NB. This letter should be read in conjunction with the Family Handbook 'Climate for Learning' which is available on the school website and also being sent to you in paper copy.



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