



Brookfield Community School

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1st September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

September 2021 – school opening update

I hope you have enjoyed the summer break and managed to have some family time together after a disrupted and unusual year. The school site has been incredibly busy over the summer break, with an enormous amount of work on school facilities and accommodation.

Further to my letter of 19th July, this letter provides further information on the return to school. Much of the information provided in this letter still applies.

Arrangements for Monday 6th September

School will re-open for all students on **Monday 6th September at 8.30am**. Year 7 students should report to the Main Hall. Other students should make their way to the form room they had last year. Year 12 students should report to the 6th form area. There will be a high staff presence to ensure students are supported to get to where they need to be. Students should come to school in full uniform and with full equipment. Details of our school uniform policy were outlined in the July letter and can also be found on the school website [here](#).

COVID-19 guidance and arrangements

We will be continuing to follow the Government's guidance in order to maintain the safety and well-being of our students, staff and wider community. This guidance has been subjected to change over recent months. Main guidance points:

- Government guidance at the current time suggests that all students are required to be tested for COVID-19 prior to the start of the summer term. Testing is encouraged although is not compulsory. Our testing will take place on **Thursday 2nd September** and details were sent to all parents last week. Year 12 and 13 students should test at home before school starts on Monday.
- It is no longer necessary to keep children in consistent groups ('bubbles').
- Close contacts will now be identified via NHS Test and Trace and education settings will no longer be expected to undertake contact tracing.
- Contacts from a school setting will only be traced by NHS Test and Trace where the positive case specifically identifies the individual as being a close contact.
- From **16th August** children under the age of 18 years old no longer be required to self-isolate if they are contacted by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case. Instead, children will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test. We would encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so.



- 18-year-olds will be treated in the same way as children until 4 months after their 18th birthday, to allow them the opportunity to get fully vaccinated. At this point they will be subject to the same rules as adults and so if they choose not to get vaccinated, they will need to self-isolate if identified as a close contact.
- If there is an outbreak in a setting or if central government offers the area an enhanced response package, a director of public health might advise a setting to temporarily reintroduce some control measures.
- Face coverings are no longer advised for pupils, staff and visitors either in classrooms or in communal areas but should be worn on public transport and dedicated school transport.
- Staff and pupils with a positive LFD test result should self-isolate in line with the stay at home guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection. They will also need to get a free PCR test to check if they have COVID-19.
- All clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV) children and young people should attend their education setting unless they are one of the very small number of children and young people under paediatric or other specialist care who have been advised by their clinician or other specialist not to attend.

Everyone at school is looking forward to welcoming our students back and to the prospect of a much more normal school year. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact school.

Yours sincerely



Mr K Hirst
Headteacher