

THE PIGGOTT SCHOOL

A Church of England Academy

Head Teacher Mr D J Gray MA, NPQH



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Dear Parents and Students

I write as an update and reminder regarding our plans for full school reopening in September.

Schools have been directed to fully reopen in September for all students. Rotas and part time arrangements for students are not allowed.

Year groups will have staggered start, break, lunch and finish times. This will ease congestion on arrival at breaks and at home time. I ask parents and students to adhere to the staggered arrival times as best they can, understanding that often families travel together. We have three pedestrian entrances to the school in addition to the vehicular entrance and these will all be open each morning. Students can arrive at school earlier than 8:30am, but there will not be staff supervision.

Face Masks

In regards to facemasks, the guidance from DfE for schools in England, that are not under local lockdown, is that the decision on the wearing of face masks by students is the headteacher's. I have consulted with other headteachers, SLT and the Chair of Governors. Face masks will need to be worn in communal areas; these being corridors, the canteen and the sixth form common and study rooms. I will review this decision, along with all of our other COVID responses, during the first half term. DfE guidance is that students should not wear masks in classrooms.

Students will need to bring a mask to school each day. They will need to have a plastic bag, such as a food/freezer bag, in which to place their mask when it is not being used. These bags are to be labelled with the child's name.

Lesson structures

Historically we have a five period day, over two weeks, giving us fifty periods per cycle. To minimise the number of times when children and staff rotate about the site we will be moving to a three lesson day with longer lessons. Mr Griffith has completed the timetable (based on a normal fifty period cycle) so we will use this and adapt the timings of lessons. Please note there have been some changes to the Year 13 timetable since mid-July and pupils are encouraged to check their timetables carefully. A small number of lessons for Year 13 now have to take place from 3:10pm to 4pm.

We will start the day as normal with registration. Pupils will arrive at school, wash their hands and then go straight to their registration room. Tutors will be available in their tutor bases to receive the children. The site team have installed multiple outdoor wash basins to increase our hand washing facilities. One-way systems will be in operation together with the use of outside doors where available.

Large gatherings for assemblies are not allowed. Therefore, assemblies will take place during tutor time via MS Teams, streamed onto whiteboards in classrooms.



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Lesson 1 starts at 9am, will be two hours long, and include a fifteen minute break.

Lesson 2 will be two and a half hours with a 30 minute lunch break.

Lesson 3 will be between 1 hour 10 minutes and 1 hour 40 minutes depending on the year group.

There will be no afternoon registration period; registers will be taken in Lesson 3 by class teachers for the afternoon session.

There is extra time in Lesson 2 to enable safe movement around the site and handwashing at the changeovers.

We will all need to be vigilant, engage in, and encourage, social distancing and good hygiene. One way systems must be followed.

At the start and end of each lesson staff and children will spray down the desks using disinfectant. Pupils will need to be responsible and assist staff in this. Pupils should wash their hands at the start and end of break and lunch, and at the end of their day. They can also wash their hands between lessons.

Prior to lockdown we employed an extra cleaner to work on site during the school day. We have contacted our cleaning contractors and are hoping to increase the number of cleaners on site during the school day.

How do the 3 lessons cover all the normal 5 periods?

We will retain weeks one and two but will now have weeks 1A, 2A, 1B and 2B, in that order.

On week 1A the three lessons each day will correspond to week 1 periods 1, 2 and 5 on our usual fifty period timetable.

On week 1B the three lessons each day will correspond to week 1 periods 3, 4 and 5 on our usual timetable.

Similarly so for weeks 2A and 2B. Thus, the shorter lesson 3 each day corresponds to our normal period 5, but they repeat each fortnight rather than every four weeks.

Children and staff will be given ongoing reminders to ensure everyone knows the new system.

Arrival, break, lunch and finish times:

Year	Arrival	Break	Lunch	Departure
7	8:30am	9:45am	12pm	2:40pm
8	8:33am	10am	12:15pm	2:45pm
9	8:36am	10:15am	12:30pm	2:50pm
10	8:42am	10:30am	12:45pm	2:55pm
11	8:45am	10:45am	1pm	3pm
12	8:30am	9:45am	12:15pm	3:05pm
13	8:40am	10:15am	1pm	3:10pm



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We will be smart and flexible about when children travel from one lesson to another. For example, if Year 7 have PE first lesson then they could be released from registration a little earlier to line up to reduce congestion.

Children will wear uniform as normal except they will not have to wear ties. Year 7 may wear ties on their first day at school, Thursday 3rd September, as I know many parents will want to take photographs of their children. On days when they have PE, students will be allowed to wear their PE kit to school to minimise congestion in our small changing areas. Tracksuit bottoms should be worn, either Piggott Sports kit or blue/ black if these are not available. Students may bring a spare PE top to school if they wish to change after PE. This will also help parents to wash uniform more regularly. Stephenson's have informed the school regarding a small number of uniform items in some sizes not yet being available. If this pertains to your child please let their tutor know before the start of school.

Each year group will be allocated an area of the school grounds in which to take break and lunch. They should also be in these areas if they arrive early to school. Children should not be mixing with other year groups.

Years 12 and 13 will only be required at school for their lessons. If they have a subject lesson 1 then they would be expected to be in registration. If they do not have a subject until Lesson 2 or 3 then they can arrive on site for 11am or 1:30pm respectively. If they have finished their lessons at 11am or 1:30pm then they can leave site for the day. Students will be able to stay on site to work during their study periods, and can arrive and leave at normal times if they wish. This will reduce the number of young adults on site at any one time. This flexibility will be reviewed at the end of September.

Sixth form students will be issued with a lanyard, ID and electronic sign in card. They must tap in when they arrive at school and tap out if they leave early. This does not replace registration time, rather it will keep our fire registers up to date. This new electronic registration system will be installed in early September. With an increasing number of new students joining our sixth form, together with the wearing of masks in communal areas, Sixth formers must wear their ID and lanyards each day to promote safeguarding for all.

Children who travel to school on public transport will need to wear a face mask for their journeys. Children travelling via bus or train should try to sit in bubbles of their respective year groups. We have been in contact with Arriva regarding a dedicated public bus service and are awaiting a positive response.

Our new Year 7 children have a day on their own at school on Thursday 3rd September and will undertake induction and acclimatisation activities. Some Year 12 will register for courses on this Thursday if they have not already registered online with the sixth form team.

Years 7 - 11 are in school on Friday 4th September. There will be tutor time until 11am and then we will go into Lesson 2 Week 1A, lunch, and then Lesson 5 Week 1A.

Years 12 and 13 will start lessons on Monday 7th September which will be Week 2A. The week starting 14th September will be week 1B.



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There are currently quarantine measures in force for people returning from some overseas travel. If your child is subject to quarantine please let their Head of Year know as soon as possible.

Children must not come to school if they are displaying any signs of COVID-19. Hand washing facilities and sanitizer will be available at school and children are also encouraged to carry their own small bottles of hand sanitizer.

The library will not be open in the mornings before school. It will be available for a small number of Year 7 students only after school during the Autumn term until 4pm. Year 7s will need to wait until any library lessons have finished, and the tables cleaned, before using it after school. The fitness suite will not be open.

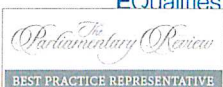
There is a Powerpoint presentation and a reminder of our new opening guidelines on the school website.

School will be somewhat different in September, but in many ways it will be the same. The children will once again enjoy coming to school and I know the staff cannot wait to see them again. There will be challenges ahead which we will overcome together.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Yours faithfully

D J Gray
Headteacher



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