



Our ref *Date*
MS/LH 20 July 2020

Dear Parent and Carer

Return to the Trinity Catholic School for all Pupils- September 2020

Earlier this month the DFE provided extensive guidance outlining the measures schools should take to ensure the safest possible return to school in September. We have been working very hard as a school to ensure that we adhere to the guidelines, therefore we have made a number of changes to how school will look and run in September. The essential measures that all schools must have in place, are in summary:

- a requirement that people who are ill stay at home
- robust hand and respiratory hygiene
- enhanced cleaning arrangements
- active engagement with NHS Test and Trace
- formal consideration of how to reduce contacts and maximise distancing between those in school wherever possible, and minimise potential for contamination so far as is reasonably practicable

Whilst we work to implement all of these measures, the final bullet point about distancing students as much as possible has the greatest impact on the operational running of the school.

Pupil grouping and zones

The first principle is that each year group 7 to 11 and then the Sixth Form as whole will become part of a pupil group known as a bubble. We have structured the school day and timetable to minimise the interactions between these groups. Each bubble will be taught in a zone in school for the majority of their subjects and only leave their zone to access lessons which require specialist rooms and for break and lunch. Rooms that are used by multiple groups will have more frequent and deeper cleaning than normal. Sixth Form students will no longer be allowed to leave the school site during lunchtime.

Altering the school day start and finish times

To release pressure on the public transport services and to reduce crowding at the start and the end of the day, we have made some adjustments to start and finish times for different year groups. This staggering is also applied to our break times to ensure that there is a maximum of three bubbles on lunch or break at any one time. Your child should aim to arrive at school no earlier than ten minutes before their scheduled start time to avoid gatherings.

<u>Year 7 and Year 8</u>	<u>Year 9</u>	<u>Year 10</u>	<u>Year 11 and Sixth Form</u>
8.50- Reading	9.10- Period 1	9.10- Period 1	10.15- Form
9.05- Period 1	10.00- Form	10.00- Break	10.30- Period 1
10.00- Form	10.15- Break	10.15- Form	11.25- Period 2
10.15- Break	10.30- Period 2	10.30- Period 2	12.20- Lunch
10.30- Period 2	11.25- Period 3	11.25- Lunch	13.15- Period 3
11.25- Lunch	12.20- Lunch	12.20- Period 3	14.10- Period 4
12.20- Period 3	13.15- Period 4	13.15- Period 4	15.10- Period 5
13.15- Period 4	14.10-Period 5	14.10-Period 5	16.05- Depart
14.10-Period 5	15.10- Depart	15.10- Depart	
14.55- Depart			



School travel

We would urge all parents to consider allowing your children to walk or cycle where possible. If students are using public transport, they must provide their own face covering which must be removed on arrival at school. Disposable ones are to be thrown away safely and reusable ones to be stored away in a child's bag within a sealed plastic bag. For those of you who are reliant on school buses and public transport, we are working with the bus companies to support your children's travel to Trinity. To help us in doing this, we wish to gain a picture of your transport requirements for September. Please click on the link below to complete a travel survey:

<https://forms.gle/vAwjwGzFbmZusvu9>

The curriculum

As a school we will continue to offer a broad and balanced curriculum. The only short-term adjustment that we have made is the temporary suspension of orchestra lessons and this is due to the enhanced constraints regarding the use of musical instruments. It is with a heavy heart that I have made this temporary measure, it is a decision that has been taken purely from a safety perspective and we will look to return orchestra lessons to the timetable as soon as is reasonably practical. PE will be still going ahead with changing rooms being cleaned between groups, additional ventilation where possible and activities that are aligned with the most recent level of guidance. Therefore, students will require PE kit to access their lessons in September.

Distancing of teachers and support staff

Teaching staff are advised to keep a distance of 2m where possible from students. This is partly due to the fact that they will be working across bubbles. For the majority of lessons students will remain in a teaching room and the teachers will move to the room to teach them. We will be working with our teaching assistants to ensure that they are able to work as safely as possible without compromising the support for our students with special educational needs.

Attendance expectations

In March when the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak was increasing, it was made clear no parent would be penalised or sanctioned for their child's non-attendance at school. Now the circumstances have changed and it is vital for all children to return to school in September to minimise as far as possible the longer-term impact of the pandemic on children's education, well-being and wider development. School attendance will therefore be mandatory again from the beginning of the autumn term. This means from that point, the usual rules on school attendance will apply, including:

- parents' duty to secure that their child attends regularly at school where the child is a registered pupil at school and they are of compulsory school age
- schools' responsibilities to record attendance and follow up absence
- the availability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices in line with local authorities' codes of conduct

Hand Cleaning and respiratory hygiene

All around the school we are installing even more hand sanitisers and will be insisting on their use before a pupil enters a classroom, when they leave a room, before they eat, after they eat as well as on arrival and departure. In terms of coughs and sneezes, students and staff will be expected to comply with the 'catch it, kill it, bin it' approach and tissues will be provided around school as well as bins for their proper disposal.



Use of equipment

There will be limited sharing of equipment so students must attend school in September fully prepared for lessons. This includes, pen, pencil, rubber, pencil sharpener, ruler, scientific calculator, colouring pencils and a glue stick.

Face coverings

Public Health England does not (based on current evidence) recommend the use of face coverings in schools. This evidence will be kept under review. They are not required in schools as pupils and staff are mixing in consistent groups, and because misuse may inadvertently increase the risk of transmission. There may also be negative effects on communication and thus education. Face coverings are required at all times on public transport (for children over the age of 11) or when attending a hospital as a visitor or outpatient.

Uniform and behaviour

It is important to mention that our rules around uniform and Sixth Form dress code have not adjusted and as such we expect all students to arrive for school in September meeting our requirements.

Thank you for your anticipated continued support.

Yours faithfully

Mr Shenton
Headteacher