

## The Arnewood School

### Return to School – September 2020

We are excited to welcome you back to school in September – an especially warm welcome to our new year 7 students and any other students that have joined us. Congratulations and thank you to everyone for their efforts working from home since the government closed the school to most students back in March.



To help you feel prepared for returning in September we have put together the following information. You will appreciate that lots of effort has been put into our plans so that the school is a safe, positive and productive environment. Some things will be the same but some things will be different. During the first week back, you will have lots of extra time with your tutor who will do their very best to answer any questions you have and to help you settle back into school life. In the meantime, please read on ...

#### **What do I need to bring to school?**

From September, you will be expected to come to school every day. You will be able to have lessons in all of your subjects with your specialist teachers. You will need to be correctly dressed in your full school uniform and you are expected to bring your own equipment so that you are ready to learn. We will not be able to lend equipment to you so please make sure you have everything you need – see the list on the right. A stationary pack is on sale from the Finance Office for £2.

You must also bring a filled water bottle as the water fountains will not be operating.

#### **Do I need to bring hand sanitizer?**

Yes please. We ask that you bring your own hand sanitizer to school and use it regularly. Each classroom will also have hand sanitizer available and there will be stations in entrances to each building. Students and staff are expected to use hand sanitizer at the start and end of every lesson and all desks will be wiped down at the end of the lesson. The school will provide the wipes. We have also employed additional cleaners to clean the site during the day as well as doing their usual thorough clean at the end of each day.

#### **Do I need to wear a face covering?**

We will always follow the latest government guidance in regard to wearing face coverings. This states that it is not necessary to wear face coverings when you are in lessons as there are many other things we will be doing to reduce the risk of COVID-19 spreading. However, as a school we have decided that the wearing of face coverings would be of benefit when staff and students are in enclosed communal areas when it will be more difficult to maintain a two-metre gap between individuals. This would include when moving in corridors and when students use toilets.

Therefore, we ask that you bring a face covering to wear when you are moving in a corridor and when you use the toilet. You do not need to wear these when you are outside. If there is a medical reason why a face covering is not appropriate, please let your head of year know.

#### **When is my first day at school and what time do I need to attend?**

We will be staggering the return to school across the first week. Each year group will begin with a briefing on all the arrangements that are in place before having time with their tutor. Your lessons will begin on your second day in school. To make this work, please note that afternoon lessons will not begin until the end of the first week. We will also be staggering the arrival and departure of each year group.

You **must** make sure you have the following equipment:

- ✓ Hand sanitizer
- ✓ At least 2 blue or black pens.
- ✓ Pencil
- ✓ Rubber
- ✓ Ruler
- ✓ Pencil sharpener
- ✓ Glue stick
- ✓ Colouring pencils if you study Art
- ✓ Filled water bottle
- ✓ Hairband for long hair for practical work
- ✓ Fully charge iPad (if you are part of the scheme)

Please see the table below to see when you need to come to school and what your regular hours will be from Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September. If it says “working at home” in the table below, you will follow your timetable - your teachers for that day will be setting you a lesson to complete at home via Firefly.

	<b>Week 1 Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Week 1 Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Week 1 Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Week 1 Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Week 1 Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>From Week 2 Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September</b>
<b>Y7</b>	8.20-13.05	8.20-13.00	8.20-13.00	8.20-13.00	8.20-15.00	8.20-15.00
<b>Y10</b>	Working at home	13.30-15.00	8.20-13.35 *	8.20-13.35 *	8.20-14.50	8.20-14.50
<b>Y9</b>	Working at home	Working at home	13.30-15.00	8.35-13.05	8.35-14.55	8.35-14.55
<b>Y8</b>	Working at home	Working at home	Working at home	13.30-15.00	8.35-14.45	8.35-14.45
<b>Y11</b>	13.30-15.00	8.20-13.10	8.20-13.10	8.20- 13.10	8.20-14.35	8.20-14.35
<b>Y12</b>	9.00-11.00	8.45-13.05	9.45-13.05	8.45-13.05	9.45-15.00	8.45-15.00
<b>Y13</b>	Working at home	9.45-13.05	8.45-13.05	9.45-13.05	8.45-15.00	8.45-15.00

### Will I be in my normal classes?

We are excited that you will be able to study a full curriculum in all of your subjects when you return. The big change though is where your lessons will take place. It is important we keep to a minimum the amount of people that come into contact with each other during the day. Therefore, we will be operating “year group bubbles”. Each year group bubble will be based in a specific part of the school where your lessons will be taught. Rather than you having to move around the school, it will be your teachers doing all the walking! You will be able to move between rooms for your different lessons so that you can enjoy a full range of subjects but you will be expected to sit in the same seat each time you are in each subject. This is to help us trace who you have been in contact with if someone gets ill.

#### Year group bubble locations:

- Year 7: Downstairs Languages
- Year 8: Upstairs Languages
- Year 9: Humanities
- Year 10: English
- Year 11: Maths
- Years 12 / 13: Science

Some lessons in practical subjects will take place in specialist classrooms such as workshops, kitchens, etc – your teachers will collect you from your year group bubble and take you to these rooms safely. Your tutor base will also be in your year group bubble area. Each area has a set of toilets to be used by the year group.

### What about break time and lunch time?

We will be maintaining year group bubbles during break and lunch time. Each year group will have a large area of the field allocated just for them and an area of the hardstanding if the field is out of use. If it is wet, you will be expected to go to your tutor base. You must stay in your year group bubble area at all times. To facilitate this, year 8 and year 10 will have an earlier break and lunch than all other year groups. This means that period 2 and 4 will be at slightly different times for year 8 and 10.

For the first two weeks, the canteen will be providing lunches for students that have free school meals only. Therefore, all other students will need to bring a packed lunch in – please make sure you use the litter bins at all times. The canteen will then begin operating a limited service once things have settled down. More details of this will follow.

### Will I have PE lessons and will there be extra-curricular activities after school?

Yes, you will have PE lessons, although the sports you get to take part in will be adapted so that they are COVID safe. We hope to be operating extra-curricular sports clubs for separate year groups – further details will be made available once the term begins.

Homework club will be by invite only to begin with and will co-ordinated by Miss Zebedee in Learning Support.

### Will sanctions still be the same?

We will be maintaining our usual high expectations in terms of your behaviour. Where appropriate we will continue to operate detentions as a consequence for a student's poor choice of behaviours. These will operate within year group bubble areas and the majority will take place after school once parents have been notified.

Our expectations around COVID-19 restrictions and social distancing are very strict. The consequences of failing to meet these expectations or deliberately ignoring the rules may result in exclusions and students being asked to work from home. This is very important so that we are all able to work together to keep everyone safe.

### Can I travel to and from school in the same way?

The government advise that students walk or cycle if at all possible. If you are cycling to school, you will need a cycle permit from your head of year and you must wear a cycle helmet. Access to the bike sheds will be limited to one student at any one time. If you use the school coach then details have already been sent out about our expectations – you must wear a face covering and sit in your allocated seat. Using public transport has been discouraged by the government – however, if there is no alternative, you must make sure you wear a face covering and sanitize your hands regularly.

We would ask that you do not hang around by the school gate when you arrive or leave. Please arrive on time and follow the signs to your year group bubble area. At the end of the day, your teacher will take your class or tutor group to the gate to dismiss you. Each year group will be leaving at a different time.

### How can I stay safe during the day?

The arrangements we have put in place are all designed to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19. However, you can help keep yourself and others safe through your actions and by being aware at all times.

#### **Stay alert and remember:**

- Use hand sanitizer at the start and end of every lesson.
- Wear a face covering in the corridor and in toilets.
- Keep left in the corridor and follow any one-way signs.
- Bring your own equipment.
- Catch it, bin it, kill it – sneeze into a tissue, bin it and hand sanitize.
- Cough into your elbow,
- Stay in your year group bubble at all times.
- Follow our expectations.
- Physical contact – we recommend you don't have physical contact with any other students (even those in your year group bubble).

### What happens if I or another student develop COVID-19 symptoms?

In line with government guidelines, we have a very clear procedure in place should anyone develop symptoms of COVID-19 at home or at school. Before school each day you should check for any of the symptoms shown to the right. If you have any of them you must stay at home and arrange to be tested as soon as possible, letting the school know. If the test is positive then you should isolate at home for at least 10 days and follow the government's advice. If you feel unwell during the day with COVID-19 symptoms you will be taken to an isolation room to wait for your parent or carer to collect you. Again, you should isolate at home and arrange to be tested as soon as possible. The school will then trace who you may have come into close contact with and ask the students to isolate at home until the result of the test is known. If the test is positive, these students would then need to self-isolate for 14 days. If you need to isolate for any reason, your teachers will set work for you to complete via Firefly.

#### **Check for the following symptoms:**

- A new and continuous cough
- A high temperature (above 37.8°C)
- A loss or change to your sense of taste and/or smell

### How long will the school operate like this for?

At the moment we do not know how long these arrangements will last for – this is a big change for all of us and we will continue to strive to make things as safe as we can. We will keep things under constant review and will continue to follow the advice and guidance we receive from the government.