



6.3.21

Arrangements for Year 9 return to school

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you are well. I am writing to you with important information regarding the return of students to school from this national lockdown. We are very much looking forward to welcoming students back onto site and need your support to ensure we can do this efficiently and safely.

All students will then return to school for face-to-face teaching on Monday 15 March. Students should arrive at school for the normal 8:30am start on 15 March and will follow their usual timetables from day 1. Please note, teachers have set work for the week beginning Monday 8 March so no live lessons will take place during next week.

Students attending our keyworker provision can continue to attend according to their usual schedule if they need to, including on 12 March.

Attendance

The government has made clear that school attendance will again be mandatory for all students from the date they are able to return to school. The usual arrangements for reporting student absence will apply e.g. use the 'Studybugs' app or leave a message on the student absence line by telephoning 020 3195 5444 or you may email us at attendance@standrewtheapostle.org.uk

Compliance with Test and Trace

Students exhibiting symptoms of coronavirus (high temperature; new continuous cough; loss of sense of taste and smell) should not come to school. Symptomatic students should be taken for testing as soon as possible. Please notify us (via email, giving us your emergency contact number, the best email address we can use to contact you, your child's full name, form group and date of birth to admin@standrewtheapostle.org.uk) if you are taking your child for a test and inform us of the outcome as soon as it is available. Families should follow government guidance on isolating if a member of the household is symptomatic or tests positive. We have clear processes in school for safely isolating anyone who becomes symptomatic on site and will contact parents/carers immediately to request removal from site for any such students.

Face Coverings

In line with recent government guidance, we recommend that students should wear face coverings at all times indoors on the school site and this includes in classrooms. The only exceptions to this are when they are seated in the canteen and when they are participating in indoor PE lessons. Students need not wear face coverings outdoors on the school site. We will, of course, allow exemptions for students who cannot wear face coverings. Please email us via admin@standrewtheapostle.org.uk if your child needs an exemption. Teachers are able to socially distance from classes and so do not need to wear face coverings though some may choose to do so. Where teachers wish to wear



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face coverings, and are teaching students with hearing impairments, they will wear masks with clear mouth panels. The government has said that it will further review its guidance on the use of face coverings in school at Easter.

Further Control Measures on Site

We will continue to follow government guidance related to limiting the risk of coronavirus transmission on the school site. We are reviewing and revising risk assessments as necessary for this re-opening.

The following control measures will apply:

Enhanced Hygiene Measures

We will be maintaining enhanced cleaning measures, including more frequent cleaning of commonly touched areas during the school day, and more frequent cleaning of toilets. All students will be required to sanitise their hands on entry to site and on entry to each lesson – this will be supervised. Hand washing facilities will be available to all students and routine hand washing will be frequently promoted.

Travel to and from School

Students are encouraged to avoid public transport for their journeys to school wherever possible. As ever, we encourage walking and cycling to school as green modes of travel with clear health benefits. However, we recognise that it will not be feasible for some students to walk/cycle to our site. School bus services will operate full services from 8 March. Students will need to wear face coverings when travelling by public transport. Face masks used on public transport should be removed before entering site and disposed of or stored securely (students should use a fresh face mask on site).

If you are planning to drop your child at school in a car we respectfully ask that you avoid driving them up to the school gate as the site can become very congested. We would strongly recommend dropping your child a little distance from the school and allowing them to walk the final stretch into school.

Arrival at School and Dismissal from School

Students will arrive at school between 8:00 and 8:25am so that they are ready for a prompt start to form time at 8:30. Students will be supervised sanitising their hands on arrival onto site and they will then go directly to their tutor base.

Break and Lunch Times and Catering

A normal catering service will be available to all students from the date of their return. Students will be able to use cashless catering accounts to pay for food and drinks as usual. Students in receipt of free school meals will be able to use this service in the way they normally do. We will continue to run staggered break and lunch times.

Uniform, Equipment and PE Changing

Students are expected to wear full school uniform in line with government guidance. Students will be reminded when they can attend school in their PE kit as we will not be using the changing room facility on site until further notice. Students should bring their own stationery and classroom equipment with them as normal for their personal use.



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School Routines and Procedures

We will continue to operate a one-way system around the school site and will be emphasising to students the need for them to consistently comply with this. Non-compliance will be a disciplinary matter. Students will be required to sanitise their workspace before the start and at the end of a lesson. This process will be supervised by classroom teachers and materials will be provided for this purpose.

Extracurricular Activities

We will not be running any after school clubs this term. We will review this at Easter. Though we fully appreciate the importance of extracurricular activity, our priority in the run up to Easter is to get students safely back onto site and settled into school routines again.

We look forward to welcoming your child/children back onto the school site very soon; thank you for your support as we manage their return and settle them back into school routines.

With best wishes

Mrs Indira Warwick

Headteacher