



Thornleigh Salesian College

Headteacher
Mrs A O'Callaghan

Sharples Park, Bolton, BL1 6PQ

Tel: 01204 301351
Fax: 01204 595351



Email: contact@thornleigh.bolton.sch.uk www.thornleigh.bolton.sch.uk

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Dear Parents & Carers of Year 10 students

Further to the announcement made by the Prime Minister about expanding the opening of schools I am now in a position to outline what our plan is to invite Year 10 students into school over the coming weeks for some face to face contact with their teachers. We are very much looking forward to welcoming students back to the school environment, albeit in a very different way.

Government guidance is that we can have a maximum of 25% of our Year 10 cohort in school at any one time. We have therefore split our Year 10 into four cohorts:

Cohort 1 – students in 10 Alpha and 10 Beta. This cohort will be invited into school each Monday.

Cohort 2 – students in 10 Gamma and 10 Delta. This cohort will be invited into school each Tuesday.

Cohort 3 – students in 10 Kappa and 10 Theta. This cohort will be invited into school each Wednesday.

Cohort 4 – students in 10 Sigma and 10 Omega. This cohort will be invited into school each Thursday.

Each cohort will be invited to attend school each week for a session that lasts from 9am – 12.45am. This will begin on Monday 15th June. It is important for everyone to understand that the entire school experience is going to have to be adjusted during this period.

So that we are working within the government guidelines there are key principles that we will follow;

- When students arrive in school, at their designated time, they must follow the directions of staff to the central registration point. They must not go to any other part of the school.
- During the school session students will be in groups of approximately 8, based in one classroom throughout the day so that we can adhere to social distancing rules. They will have five taught sessions to include, in the first instance, English, Maths, Science, RE & either History & Geography.
- Students will be taught by a subject specialist for each subject, but this may not be their usual class teacher.
- Students will be expected to adhere to rules on social distancing both for the entire time they are in school and also on their journeys to and from school. Students must not gather in groups at any time.
- Students will be expected to adhere to hygiene and public health advice which will include regular handwashing and sanitizing, as well as always carrying tissues that can be used in the case of coughing or sneezing. We have increased handwashing and sanitising facilities in school to allow for this.
- Students will be expected to adhere to the COVID 19 behaviour policy (attached), both in and out of school, if they do not, they will not be permitted to continue attending school during this period.
- Students are to be discouraged to use public transport, which includes school buses, to get to and from school in order to reduce the number of interactions that they have, and therefore reduce the risk of spreading the virus. Students, wherever possible, should walk or cycle to school, or be brought to school by car. We recognise that some students may have no alternative but to travel on the bus, but this should be only as a last resort. Any students who do use public transport must take responsibility to adhere to social distancing rules in the absence of any adult supervision on the bus. Bus companies will reserve the right to stop people travelling if they do not adhere to those rules.



- Any student or staff member who contracts any symptoms of Covid19 must report these symptoms and subsequently be prepared to book in for a test, self-isolate and inform school of the result when they receive it.

In terms of practicalities there some key points to note

- Students attending school must be in full school uniform, however as this must be washed after each time that they have attended. We will not expect students to wear their blazer in school.
- Students must bring their own stationary equipment to school; equipment cannot be shared between students. We will provide an exercise book and a zip wallet. Students should not bring a bag.
- We will issue arrival times to students depending on their mode of transport, students should not arrive outside of these times.
- There are currently no catering facilities on site, students may bring a snack with them that they can eat during their supervised break but these cannot be shared with other students.
- Students will not remain in school for lunch.

Along with the face to face contact that students will be having with their teachers we are also further developing the online curriculum for our students. This will mean that teachers will be delivering live lessons online via the 'Zoom' platform as well as setting tasks for students to complete independently that will need to be submitted. Links to Zoom lessons will be shared on Google Classroom. Our aim is that all students are at a similar point in terms of curriculum content by the time the summer term draws to a close.

The decision about whether your child returns to school from the 15th June of course remains yours, we would encourage students to attend so that we can begin to more accurately assess the progress they are making and any gaps that are emerging. However, if for any reason this is not the right decision for you then we will endeavour to ensure that your child receives all the support that they need as we move towards Year 11.

There are a number of documents attached

- A Frequently Asked Questions sheet which addresses questions raised by parents following the initial survey sent out in May.
- The COVID 19 behaviour policy which must be agreed to by all students and their parents.
- The timetable for the online live lessons being delivered.

Over the next week we will also send out a guide for students to access the live Zoom lessons that will be taught.

At this stage there is no published guidance for schools that pertains to September and so I am unable to answer any questions about this but please rest assured that as soon as this becomes available, we will respond and communicate with you.

I look forward to welcoming your child back to school very soon.

Yours sincerely

A O'Callaghan

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Headteacher

