

Dear parents, carers and students,

I hope you've had an enjoyable summer and that students are as excited about the start of the school year as we are! For those of you with family or friends in Years 13 and Year 11 you will know how proud we are of our students' results and the resilience they have shown throughout– it is against this backdrop of excellence that we make preparations for the year ahead.

Most of the arrangements for September remain as communicated throughout July, however, I am now in a position to provide further details and I ask that parents, carers and students take time to read this letter to help ease any anxiety or concerns about the return to school.

### **Our Return to School Plan - Which day do I start school?**

The table below outlines the return to school plans.

<b>Monday 7</b>	<b>Tuesday 8</b>	<b>Wednesday 9</b>	<b>Thursday 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Friday 11<sup>th</sup></b>
Year 12 Induction Day	<b>Year 7 start school</b>	Years 7 and 11 in school	Years 7,8 and 11 in school	Years 7,8,9 and 11 in school
	<b>Year 11 return to school</b>	<b>Year 8 return to school</b>	<b>Year 9 return to school</b>	<b>Year 10 return to school</b>
			<b>Lessons begin for Years 12 and 13</b>	Lessons for Years 12 and 13

We are staggering the return to school so that each year group is given ample time to learn about our new safety arrangements, familiarise themselves with their learning zone and lunch/break arrangements.

### **What will happen on students' first day?**

Students in Years 12 and 13 will receive an additional letter next from Mr Kirby, outlining the programme for their first day.

On arrival to school all students will be expected to wash their hands at our newly installed external sink units. They will then be directed to their form rooms, which are in their learning zones for a dedicated session which will enable students to receive their new school planners, timetables and a clear outline of our arrangements for lunch, break and Behaviour and Rewards Policies.

Students in Year 7 will also participate in some additional transition events, and will not start their timetable until the afternoon on their first day.

### **Our Staggered Start and End to the School Day:**

	<b>Year 7</b>	<b>Year 8</b>	<b>Year 9</b>	<b>Year 10</b>	<b>Year 11</b>	<b>Yrs 12 and 13</b>
<b>START</b>	8.25 a.m.	9.00 a.m.	8.50 a.m.	8.40 a.m.	8.35 a.m.	As per their timetable
<b>FINISH</b>	2.45 p.m.	2.40 p.m.	2.35 p.m.	2.30 p.m.	2.50 OR 3.30 p.m. if attending Period 7	

We are staggering the start of the school day so that we can ensure that when students arrive on site they wash their hands before entering their learning zone. Our staggered start also reduces the crossing between year group bubbles.

Students who catch the school bus will be accommodated in their learning zone until they can either join their form group in period one, or in the case of year eight, their subject lesson in period two at 9 a.m. Unfortunately, we cannot accommodate other students who arrive on site early, and we thank you in advance for your support in this.

Students in Year 11 will be in Intervention Groups from 8.35 a.m. – 9.00 a.m. focussing on one of the following subjects: English, Maths, Science, History, Geography or Languages. From Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September Year 11 will be invited to attend Period 7, (additional intervention in all subjects), from 2.50 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.

We will of course review this approach in line with any changes to government guidance.

### **Arrangements for Break/Lunch**

To reduce movement around the school, ensure handwashing and to avoid queues we have had to put the following measures in place in relation to before school, break and lunchtime.

- There will be no breakfast provision before school
- Break will take place in classrooms, students will be able to bring snacks/drinks but they will not be able to buy things from our catering team at break time. (Fizzy drinks remain banned)
- Our first “Lunch” service will be at 11 a.m. with “Break” for these students taking place later in the day. Students are able to decide for themselves which session they eat their actual lunch in as we appreciate that for some students, 11 a.m. is very early
- All year groups will have access to an in-door and out-door space during their allocated “Lunch” which lasts for thirty minutes

A new **School Meal Ordering System** will be in place. The system allows students to pre-order a grab bag that will be delivered to students.

- Each week an easy to use, order form will be emailed home to parents. The form will also be available on our website
- Students will be able to order different choices for each day of the week
- The link will be available on the Friday prior to the week you are ordering and the cut off to submit orders is 11.00 pm on Sunday evening
- Each day we will manually deduct the cost of your food order from parentpay so please continue to top-up your parentpay account as normal
- Students in receipt of Free School Meals will need to use this system to order their food and their allowance is £2.40 per day

We will review this service in October half term unless we receive revised DfE guidance.

### **School Transport**

We would encourage students to walk/cycle to school if possible. An area for locking cycles is available (students should bring their own bike locks). Students are not able to leave cycles or

scooters in any other areas of the school. Please note that school cannot be held liable for damage to/theft of bikes/scooters whilst on school property.

We recognise that many students will be travelling to school on the school bus service, and that even though current guidance is that where possible alternative travel arrangements are made, that for some families this will be impossible. The current guidance in relation to school buses is as follows:

- The school bus times and routes will operate as normal;
- Students will not travel to school in their own “bubble”;
- Students will sanitise their hands on entry and exit from the bus;
- Students will not be expected to socially distance on the school bus;
- Students will be expected to wear a face covering whilst travelling on any school bus or public transport.

Our staggered starts and finishes to the school day will be kept under constant review and amendments will be communicated. It is our wish to align things, especially in relation to the start of the school day, as soon as it is safe to do so.

Arrangements have been made for students for whom travel by school bus is the only option, to be held in a room within their year group zone, until lessons begin for their year group. Unfortunately, due to limits on staff availability and the need to have additional staff on duty, we are unable to make this provision for any other students and thank parents/carers in advance for the support you will give in support of our staggered starts and ends to the school day.

### **PE lessons**

The PE department has worked over the summer on the delivery of the PE curriculum with the restrictions that are in place as a result of government guidance. To begin with we will be limiting the use of our changing rooms, so that on any one day only one year group will have access to them. This means that PE lessons will be a mixture of practical sessions OR theory lessons - this will apply to all year groups. Due to the limitations, some students may receive more practical sessions than others, we apologise in advance for this and of course will alter this arrangement as soon as guidance permits.

Students will not need their PE kit for their first timetabled PE lesson. During this lesson their teacher will go through their timetable with them and identify which lessons will be practical.

### **What will my child need to bring to school?**

Students will need the following items:

- 2 blue/black pens
- 1 pencil
- A ruler
- An eraser
- A yellow highlighter pen
- A red pen

- A packet of pencils
- A glue stick
- A pair of scissors
- A scientific calculator

As students will be unable to share equipment or borrow items from staff, it is vital that students return with these items.

Students will also be permitted to bring one bag on site with them, for storage of school books and their pencil case. We would also encourage students to bring a water bottle with them, as access to drinking fountains and water coolers will not be permitted.

### **School Lockers**

Unfortunately, students will no longer have access to their lockers. The company that rents the lockers will be providing vouchers to any families who have already purchased a rental agreement that can be redeemed as soon as we are able to allow students access to their lockers.

### **Extra curricular/after school events**

Sadly, we have put routine events such as parents' evenings under review, as DfE guidance currently does not allow us to run these. Extra curricular events and school visits will similarly need to be temporarily postponed to maintain the integrity of year group bubbles. The Duke of Edinburgh award scheme is also temporarily postponed.

### **School photographs**

Individual photographs for our new Year 7 students and Year 12 will take place on Friday 11th September.

### **Behaviour and Rewards Policies**

Due to the restrictions placed on schools and our additional health and safety measures we have revised our Behaviour and Rewards Policies. These will be shared with students on their first day, made available on our website and sent home on Friday 7th September.

Please note that as previously communicated, our Mobile Phone Policy remains as was, and that mobile phones are not permitted.

### **Face Coverings (Masks)**

You will be aware that government guidance to schools in relation to face coverings is rapidly changing. As it stands today, as Sherburn High School is not in a local lockdown area students are not required to wear face coverings within the school grounds.

Our current position is that any student who wishes to wear a face covering/mask in school is permitted to do so. We ask that masks are appropriate for a school setting and that they only

cover the nose and mouth. The school will remain the arbiter of what is an appropriate type of mask. This area remains under review as government guidance evolves.

***And finally...***

If 2020 has taught us anything, it is that things are subject to rapid change! My hope is that I won't be communicating with you again until Friday 11th September, but if things do change, I will of course update you.

In the meantime, I hope that you are able to enjoy the bank holiday weekend and that we might even be lucky enough to glimpse some sunshine!

Yours sincerely,

Miriam Oakley