

Formby High School

'Determined to Achieve'



DMA/LFO

17 July 2020

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Dear Parent

Whilst it is my intention to provide much more detailed information to parents and students in August prior to reopening, I wanted to write to share some important information about the new school year. You might be aware that the government has set out its intention for schools to reopen to all students on a full-time basis in September. To support schools in the process of reopening and ensuring the safety of students and staff, the Department for Education has published detailed guidance for schools to follow.

Without doubt, school will be very different to how it was before the outbreak of Covid-19. Everyone will have to adapt and elements of the school's wider offer to students will have to be temporarily scaled back. I am hopeful that students and their parents will accept these sacrifices as worthwhile in order to reopen as safely as possible. I can assure you that the curriculum will not be narrowed and, whilst some subjects may be taught in non-specialist rooms, we will maintain the full breadth of our curriculum offer when we reopen.

The key measures we intend to introduce from September are (i) the organisation of students into year group 'bubbles' and the delivery of most of the curriculum within these 'bubbles', (ii) staggered start and finish times to enable the separation of students from different year groups when they arrive and depart and (iii) a reduced and staggered lunch break with only two 'bubbles' having lunch at any one time.

As mentioned above, more details will be provided in August about the arrangements and procedures which will be in place in September as part of the school's Covid-19 response plan. At the same time, a copy of the school's updated risk assessment will be shared with parents. I will also write to parents of students going into Years 11 and 13 to provide information about some helpful changes to GCSE and A Level examinations that they will take next summer.

Start of Term Arrangements

Given the significance of the changes that will be implemented in September, we require time for induction and orientation with students. With this in mind, we have reorganised the arrangements for the start of the school year as set out below.

Wednesday 2 September

Year Group	Arrival Time	Arrival Gate	Report to	Departure Time	Departure Gate
Year 7	10:15am	Freshfield Rd (Year 7 gate)	Front Field	12:45pm	Freshfield Rd (Year 7 gate)
Year 12	10:00am	Freshfield Rd (Year 12 gate)	Drama Studio	12:30pm	Freshfield Rd (Year 12 gate)





Thursday 3 September

Year Group	Arrival Time	Arrival Gate	Report to	Departure Time	Departure Gate
Year 7	10:00am	Freshfield Rd (Year 7 gate)	Tutor Rooms	12:45pm	Freshfield Rd (Year 7 gate)
Year 8	9:05am	Long Lane	Front Field	11:30am	Long Lane
Year 9	1:00pm	Freshfield Rd (Year 9 gate)	Front Field	3:20pm	Freshfield Rd (Year 9 gate)
Year 10	8:55am	Freshfield Rd (Year 10 gate)	Sports Hall	11:20am	Freshfield Rd (Year 10 gate)
Year 11	1:00pm	Long Lane	Sports Hall	3:20pm	Long Lane
Year 12					
Year 13	9:05am	Freshfield Rd (Year 13 gate)	Drama Studio	11:30am	Freshfield Rd (Year 13 gate)

Friday 4 September

All year groups will resume their normal timetable and should arrive to start at the times set out in the table below.

Times of the School Day

To enable safety measures to be put in place, the times of the school day will be temporarily changed. Some year groups will have a tutor period at the start of the school day whereas others will finish the day with a tutor period and each year group will be assigned a different entrance / exit gate to use when arriving / departing. The lunch break for all students will take place either at the beginning, middle or end of the 1 hour 30 minutes allocated to Period 4 / lunch. Despite the changes, there will be no lost learning time and the Year 12 and 13 timetable will continue to be delivered over four days.

8:55am – 9:05am	Tutor Period – Year 7, 10 and 11
9:05am – 10:05am	Period 1
10:05am – 10:10am	Lesson changeover
10:10am – 11:10am	Period 2
11:10am – 11:20am	Morning break
11:20am – 12:20pm	Period 3
12:20pm – 12:25pm	Lesson changeover
12:25pm – 1:55pm	Period 4 / lunch
1:55pm – 2:00pm	Lesson changeover
2:00pm – 3:00pm	Period 5
3:00pm – 3:10pm	Tutor Period Years 8, 9, 12 and 13

Open Evening / Terms Dates

We will not be able to hold our Open Evening scheduled on 17 September 2020 and this will now be a normal school day. We have updated the Term Dates 2020/21 document (attached) to confirm this.



Uniform / Equipment

Students will be expected to attend from September in full school uniform and fully equipped for all classroom-based lessons. They will not be able to share equipment with their peers. Full details of the [school uniform](#) and [school equipment](#) requirements can be found on the school website. Students will not have access to lockers and will be required to carry their books and equipment for their timetabled lessons in an appropriately sized school bag. Storage areas that will allow students to store their belongings will be created in each of the 'bubbles'.

I am aware that there is a lot of information to absorb and if circumstances concerning Covid-19 change nationally or regionally, this plan may very well change. I hope, though, it is helpful in setting out the school's broad plans. I am sure you will have plenty of questions and I ask that you read the more detailed guidance that will be issued during the Summer break which will hopefully address them for you.

I will write again next week with my end of term letter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D A Mackenzie'.

D A Mackenzie
Headteacher