

RHU/ALA/August 2020

27 August 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you and your child are having an enjoyable summer holiday so far and are feeling ready for the return to school. We are very much looking forward to safely welcoming all our students back from;

Tuesday 1st September

Whole Staff INSET Day – No students in school

Wednesday 2nd September

Year	Time	Entrance	Exit
Year 7 students will return to school	(0900 – 1500)	Main Academy Reception entrance	Main Academy Reception entrance

Thursday 3rd September

Year	Time	Entrance	Exit
Year 7 students	(0900 – 1500)	Main Academy Reception entrance	Main Academy Reception entrance
Year 11 students will return to school	(0845 – 1530)	Dudley Street front gate	Main Academy Reception entrance
Year 12 students will return to school	(0915 – 1530)	Main Academy Reception entrance	Main Academy Reception entrance

Friday 4th September

Year	Time	Entrance	Exit
Year 7 students	(0900 – 1500)	Main Academy Reception entrance	Main Academy Reception entrance
Year 11	(0845 – 1530)	Dudley Street front gate	Main Academy Reception entrance
Year 12 & 13	(0915 – 1530)	Main Academy Reception entrance	Main Academy Reception entrance

Monday 7th September

Year	Time	Entrance	Exit
Year 7 students	(0900 – 1500)	Main Academy Reception entrance	Main Academy Reception entrance
Years 8 students will return to school	(0915 – 1515)	Dudley Street front gate	Dudley Street front gate
Years 9 students will return to school	(0845 – 1445)	Main Academy Reception entrance	Dudley Street front gate
Years 10 students will return to school	(0900 – 1500)	Astro Turf entrance	Astro Turf entrance
Year 11 students	(0845 – 1530)	Dudley Street front gate	Main Academy Reception entrance
SWB6 students	(0915 – 1530)	Main Academy Reception entrance	Main Academy Reception entrance

The following video walkthrough's are available to support student's safe return to the Academy;
<https://ormistonswbacademy.org.uk/covid-19/>

Ahead of this, I wanted to write to you today to provide an update on the wearing of face coverings in and around school, following an [update to Government guidance released late last night](#).

The Department for Education has said the use of face coverings in schools are generally not necessary, as the robust safety and hygiene measures that have been implemented, including students and staff keeping in consistent groups (bubbles), social distancing and undertaking regular hand washing, will help control the spread of any virus.

The Government guidance has been updated, however, to state that in areas of the country where the transmission of the virus is high and local lockdowns have been implemented, that face coverings should be worn by all students and staff when moving around the school. In the event of a local lockdown being implemented here, we would communicate with parents, students and staff immediately and would provide disposable masks in the first instance.

We do understand, however, that some parents, students, and staff **may feel more comfortable if they have the option to wear a face covering on their return to school in September** if necessary, including in areas where social distancing may not always be possible. **Whilst not compulsory, face coverings will therefore be permitted where appropriate. This includes communal areas, such as; the Restaurant, corridors and open areas, but they will not necessarily be needed within the classroom where there will be social distancing and social bubbles in action. If a student or staff member does strongly feel that they would like to wear a face covering in the classroom, however, then appropriate arrangements can be made.**

It is very important that when wearing a face covering at school, your child understands the correct way to wear, handle and store them, as if they are handled incorrectly it may inadvertently increase the risk of transmission. For information on wearing, handling and washing reusable face coverings, additional information is included at the end of this letter and I would also encourage you to read the following Government guidance: <https://bit.ly/3guiK61>

Additionally, as they are not mandatory in areas of low transmission and your child should already have an appropriate face covering for other settings such as shops, they will need to be provided by yourselves, rather than the school. **We would ask that the face coverings are multiple use, are as plain as possible, and are non-branded. If you would like your child to wear a face covering but are unable to access one, please do contact the school directly so that we can provide the necessary support.**

To support social distancing, while ensuring a safe and efficient Break service. **Students will remain on their floors at Break time and the Academy will offer free items including; bagels, cereal bars and bottled water from Monday 07 September to students**, but do encourage, where possible, parents/carers to provide their own snacks. The Academy will continue to offer a diverse range of hot and cold food/drink items at Lunch time from the Restaurant. All items will be served using disposables packaging and catering staff will be required to wear visors during service.

We completely appreciate that these continue to be extraordinary times, and whilst the return to school in September will be a somewhat different to what we all know, we want to ensure that we make the best possible start to the new academic year for your child.

The safety and wellbeing of our students, and staff, continues to be our absolute priority and we have worked tirelessly over the last few months to have all safety measures in place so that we can safely welcome your child back to school in September.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,



Rod Hughes
Principal

How to wear a face covering

A face covering should:

- cover your nose and mouth while allowing you to breathe comfortably
- fit comfortably but securely against the side of the face
- be secured to the head with ties or ear loops
- be made of a material that you find to be comfortable and breathable, such as cotton
- ideally include at least two layers of fabric (the World Health Organisation recommends three depending on the fabric used)
- unless disposable, it should be able to be washed with other items of laundry according to fabric washing instructions and dried without causing the face covering to be damaged

When wearing a face covering you should:

- wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water for 20 seconds or use hand sanitiser before putting a face covering on
- avoid wearing on your neck or forehead
- avoid touching the part of the face covering in contact with your mouth and nose, as it could be contaminated with the virus
- change the face covering if it becomes damp or if you've touched it
- avoid where possible taking it off and putting it back on a lot in quick succession

When removing a face covering:

- wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water for 20 seconds or use hand sanitiser before removing
- only handle the straps, ties or clips
- do not give it to someone else to use
- if single-use, dispose of it carefully in a residual waste bin and do not recycle
- if reusable, wash it in line with manufacturer's instructions at the highest temperature appropriate for the fabric
- wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water for 20 seconds or use hand sanitiser once removed