



FAQs for September 2020 School Return – Updated 16.07.20

Please note that all answers are for a September return under the current Government guidance. If guidance changes over the summer period we will make any required changes. Our current planning is for the start of the Autumn Term, we are not able to confirm when restrictions will be altered at this time.

Q1. Will students attend school full time?

A1. Yes. Term starts for Year 7 and 12 on Wednesday 2nd September and Years 8, 9, 10, 11 and 13 on Thursday 3rd September.

Q2. Is the start of the day staggered times?

A2. There are no set staggers for the start of the day. Students can arrive on site from 8.15am and will make their way straight to their year base on the field. All students will meet on the school field on the first day of term to meet their tutor.

From Friday 4th September students will go straight to their tutor room if they arrive from 8:40am. All students must be in their tutor rooms by 8:50am

Q3. Does the school day still end at 3:30pm?

A3. Students that walk or are collected by car will finish school between 3:10pm and 3:20pm, they will be dismissed from the school site at 2minute intervals, by Year Group. If you are collecting your child by car please arrange an appropriate pick up location with your child as you are not able to collect on the school site.

Students that catch a bus will leave site on their bus from 3:30pm.

Q4. My child usually catches the bus to school, do they still do this?

A4. In line with government advice, students should walk or cycle to school if this is safe to do so. Buses will run and students can catch their bus as required. On dedicated school transport students will be expected to sit in Year Group sections to help maintain Year Group bubbles and use the hand sanitizer on Catteralls Coaches. We encourage you to ensure that your child has appropriate face covering for these journeys.

Q5. Does uniform need to be washed more often?

A5. No, in line with Government guidance, there is no need to wash uniform more regularly than usual.

Q6. On the days that my child has PE, can they wear skins/leggings/tracksuit bottoms over/under their skort/shorts?

A6. Yes, we recommend that students wear these items for other lessons during the day, as long as they are a dark colour and without large logos. Students are not required to wear their blazer on a PE kit day but should remember to carry their bus pass if they have one.

Q7. Will rooms be ventilated?

A7. Yes, windows and doors will be open to increase ventilation in rooms. Students are allowed to wear a plain bottle green, grey or black "V" neck pullover with or without sleeves (not cardigans).

Q8. Will my child need to bring any extra equipment?

A8. No, however it is vital that your child has all of the **essential** equipment that all students are required to have each day which is:

- **reading book**
- black or blue ballpoint pens
- pencil sharpener
- pencils
- pair of compasses
- pencil eraser
- ruler
- coloured pencils/fine fibre tips
- protractor
- transparent pencil case
- calculator
- dry-wipe board pen

We are also suggesting that the following equipment would be **recommended** to reduce the need to share equipment within your child's bubble:

- Glue Stick
- Scissors
- Coat/Umbrella (If you are arriving before 8:40am you will meet on the school field)
- Hand sanitiser (this is available in school but students may wish to also carry their own)

Q9. Will the canteen be open?

A9. The canteen will be open at break and lunch but not before school. There will be a more limited menu on offer for break and lunchtime to allow all Year Groups to access their own servery point.

Q10. Will my child need to wear a face mask in school?

A10. Guidance is that face coverings are not required in schools, currently students and staff will not be wearing face covering in school. If guidance changes on this over the summer holidays we will update you.

Q11. Will my child be socially distanced at all time?

A11. Students will not be socially distanced within their year group bubble. They will be encouraged to socially distance where space allows e.g. outside and all available space will be used in classrooms. Students will all face the same direction in classrooms and face to face interactions will be avoided. Students will be required to socially distance from other Year Groups and staff when moving around the school site and we ask that you talk to your child about maintaining this practice outside of school.

Q12. Will there be after school extra-curricular clubs such as homework club?

A12. There will be no clubs or extra-curricular activities at the start of the Autumn Term, we will update you when we are in a position to begin these activities. As there are no activities on after school, there will be no late bus.

Q13. Can I come into school if I have a concern?

A13. You will be able to come on to the school site if you have an appointment booked (we will try to offer virtual meetings when possible) so you will have to call or email and arrange an appointment before coming in to school.

Q14. Will my child be issued with exercise books?

- A14.** Yes, students will receive exercise books for their subjects and they will bring these home with them. Students are responsible for making sure they bring the correct books with them each day.
- Q15.** Will my child have to go to the toilets to wash their hands every lesson?
A15. No, each year group bubble has an allocated toilet block, however we will be using hand sanitiser throughout the day to support with good hand hygiene.
- Q16.** I have several children at the school, can they see each other and interact during the day as they are from the same household?
A16. Students in different year groups will not be able to mix or interact when in school, this is to support the integrity of the Year Group bubbles and help with the management of these bubbles.
- Q17.** Can my child use their locker?
A17. Lockers will not be available at the start of the Autumn Term as they are located at various locations across the school site. We will review this on a regular basis once we return. As students are being taught in Year Group bubbles they will not have far to move between lessons, which are located within one area of the school.
- Q18.** My child (or a member of our household) is shielding, is my child expected in school?
A18. The current guidance is that all adults and children will be able to return to school in September with the measures that are in place. If this guidance changes we will update you.
- Q19.** What do I do if my child or a member of our household has COVID symptoms?
A19. Your child/ren should remain at home and the symptomatic person should arrange for a COVID-19 test. This supports the
- Q20.** Will my child be able to fill their water bottle up in school?
A20. All water coolers are currently out of use due to being a high contact surface, we advise students to bring several water bottles to school to last them through the day.
- Q21.** Will my child study all of their options subjects?
A21. Yes, however there will be limitations on the practical elements of courses when starting the Autumn Term.
- Q22.** Will my child's lessons be in the usual classrooms?
A22. Students will be based in a zoned area of the school but will move classrooms within this zone as required.
Sixth Form students will have lessons in various locations around the school site to accommodate their options, this will not interfere with other Year Group zones.
- Q23.** Will my child be in their normal groups for lesson or will they remain in their tutor group all day?
A23. Students will continue to be taught in sets or option groups when this is normal practice for the subject.
- Q24.** Will the behaviour policy change?
A24. There will be an updated behaviour policy addendum shared for the Autumn Term.
- Q25.** Will there be catch up sessions if my child has fallen behind with their learning over lockdown?

- A25.** There will be no additional sessions to start the term, we will be focusing on consolidation of learning and addressing gaps in knowledge and understanding via quality first teaching in lesson.
- Q26.** My child is going into Year 11, will they be changing tutor groups?
A26. No. Students will remain in the same tutor group that they were in for Year 10.
- Q27.** My question was not answered here, what do I do?
A27. Email your question to southamcollege@welearn365.com and we will send out further FAQs later this week.

Thank you for taking the time to read these FAQs, we hope they have been of use.

Additional FAQs 16.07.20

- Q28.** Will students that have been shielding or are from a household with members that have been shielding be able to socially distance from others?
A28. To accommodate the full return of all students, it will not be possible for students to socially distance at all times where class sizes do not allow for this. We will use all available space within a classroom to create as much distance between students as possible and apply other strategies to mitigate risk such as ventilation. We will also have robust hand cleaning procedures and open windows in each classroom to ensure students and staff stay safe as possible.
- Q29.** If my child is following the instruction to self-isolate, will they still receive work from their teachers?
A29. We will continue to use Show My Homework to upload lesson resources for students that are at home due to following the instruction from NHS Test and Trace to self-isolate. School work will be uploaded at the end of the day and students can use the comment function on Show My Homework to contact their teachers in the usual way.
- Q30.** My child arrives before 8:40am. Where should they go if there is bad weather?
A30. Students arriving before 8:40am must go to their year base on the field. In the event of bad weather it is advised that students have a coat and umbrella. Students can access tutor rooms from 8:40am. This is a plan for the initial return and will be regularly reviewed to develop provision whilst continuing to mitigate risk. In very extreme circumstances we will carry out a dynamic risk assessment and find an appropriate dry space.
- Q31.** My child gets home on the bus. How will the departure from site be managed to avoid close contact with other year groups?
A31. Students will wait for their bus in year groups and be dismissed to board their bus and be seated before the next year group boards. Students will be seated with the oldest year group at the back of the bus and loaded by oldest students first.
- Q32.** How will social distancing be observed at break and lunch?
A32. Year groups have their own allocated indoor and outdoor spaces for break and lunch. We will observe our 'no hands on' policy and encourage students to be responsible for keeping their distance from others.
- Q33.** How and when will hand sanitiser be used?

- A33.** Hand sanitiser dispensers are now located throughout school buildings to allow students to sanitise their hands on entry to a block or classroom. Students will be required to clean their hands on entering a new classroom and returning from break/lunch. Staff will supervise and support students in sanitising their hands when entering the classroom. Students are encouraged to have their own hand sanitiser as part of the recommended equipment list (A8) and can access the wall mounted sanitiser stations throughout the day as required.
- Q34.** Will toilet blocks be cleaned throughout the day?
- A34.** Enhanced cleaning will take place throughout the school day and will include more regular cleaning of toilet blocks.
- Q35.** How will payment be taken in the canteen?
- A35.** Each year group has a designated canteen server point. Fingerprint scanners will continue to be used for payment and will be cleaned regularly, hand sanitiser will be available at all biometric scanners.
- Q36.** What happens if my child get wet or muddy during PE lessons? Will they be able to change?
- A36.** Students will remain in their PE kit all day on the days they have PE lessons. The PE department will adapt their activities to ensure kit remains dry, using indoor spaces when the weather is inclement.
- Q37.** With updated information on face coverings in shops does my child now need to wear a face covering in school?
- A37.** Currently the advice remains that face covering are not required in schools but we will continue to monitor this situation over the summer and update all parties as required.
- Q38.** How will toilet facilities be checked?
- A38.** School facilities will be checked on a regular schedule as part of our enhanced cleaning procedures. This will ensure that hand washing facilities are fully functioning, students can support with this by reporting damage to a member of staff if witnessed or noticed.
- Q39.** Can students in different year groups share a lift to school?
- A39.** We would advise against this (See A11).
- Q40.** Is there the potential to decrease the number of students on site if there was a significant increase in infection rates locally?
- A41.** Yes. We will continue to track local data and act accordingly to mitigate risk as required. A remote learning plan is being developed to ensure that we are prepared for effective continuation of learning in the case of a National or local lockdown.
- Q42.** Will 2minute intervals be sufficient in dismissing students from site?
- A42.** It is felt that with additional duty staff to promote prompt movement that this will be adequate time for movement that is taking place outdoors.
- Q43.** Will there be a one way system around school?
- A43.** As students are remaining in zones for their year group this is not necessary currently but we will continue to review measures.
- Q44.** Are masks compulsory on designated school transport?
- A44.** Currently they are not compulsory, however they are advised, as is the use of the hand sanitiser that is available on the buses.