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Dear Parent/Carer and students

Returning to Bilton School – September 2020. Year 12/13

I hope that you have had a safe and enjoyable summer break and are looking forwards to starting the next phase of your educational journey at Bilton.

In my communication to you at the end of last term I explained that I would update you on the details of how we would be returning to school in the new academic year in light of the Covid-19 situation and where we currently stand in terms of the Government guidance. I can confirm that currently there will be a full return of students to schools at the start of the Autumn Term. I want to confirm that Bilton School will follow all Government guidance and;

- Be open to all students in all year groups for full time provision.
- Will be providing access to the full curriculum ensuring students have the opportunity to study all subjects.

In following government guidance we will at all times attempt to;

- Minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have Covid 19 symptoms or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school.
- Ensure that hands are cleaned more often than usual. This will in time embed a hand cleaning culture throughout the whole school community.
- Enhance our cleaning capacity during the school day.
- Ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting 'catch it, bin it, kill it'.
- Minimise contact between individuals and as much as possible maintain social distancing.
- Produce a detailed risk assessment outlining how we will keep all stakeholders as safe as possible in order to mitigate risk.

In addition to the above and to keep our students and staff as safe as possible, students will be kept in Year Group bubbles at the start of next term. This is to reduce transmission risks posed by Covid 19.

I can confirm that each bubble will be allocated a male and female toilet block, canteen food servery, inside and outside social space. Students will be expected to return in full uniform, however we ask that students attend in their PE kit on days when they have a PE practical lesson in order to allow them to take part in this activity without the need to use the changing facilities in school.

When students return to school they will be guided to a particular zone of the site dedicated solely to their year group bubble and will remain in that location for all of their lessons. Students will not move to different areas of the school for lessons, teaching staff will move to the students.

A typical day. Year group specific details are set out below

- On arrival to school students will go directly to their designated outside space (internal rooms in poor weather/when tutors are in their designated tutor room)
- As the bell goes staff will ensure that the year enter the correct zone and go to their tutor room for their Character & Culture lesson. Lesson 1 bell goes and tutors go to teach their lesson according to their timetable, this may well be in a different zone.
- Each lesson will proceed as the above and will follow the regular timetabled day.
- Breaks and lunch-times will also follow the same timings, but students will remain within their year group bubble and will be restricted to specific locations for food serverys and where they can go during these times.
- At the end of the day students will be released from their teaching zones in year groups to exit the site at 3 minute intervals. Students will need to quickly vacate the site and proceed on their journey home and not congregate in the area immediately outside the school perimeter.
- Pupils on dedicated school services do not mix with the general public on those journeys and tend to be consistent. This means that the advice for passengers on public transport to adopt a social distance of two metres from people outside their household or support bubble, or a 'one metre plus' approach where this is not possible, will not apply from the autumn term on dedicated transport. Students will, however be expected to sit on the school buses in year group bubbles which will be aided by the staggered year group release at the end of the day.

Details of year group specific zones within the school

In order to keep everyone as safe as we practically can it is really important that students adhere to the following zonal restrictions within the site.

Year 12/13

Entrance and exit to the site

Onto the site via the bottom gate next to the nursery, up the drive and into the building via the front sixth form steps.

Teaching zone

H64, H65, H66, H67, C51, C52, C53, C54

All of the current 6th form area can be used as normal as this zone of the school is its own bubble.

Outside space

Decking area at the back and the open grassed space beyond, but away from the Astro entrance and area.

Break/Lunch

Outside servery from the Sports Hall. This will be a shared area with Year 7. 6th form students will have access to this facility from 12:30-1pm.

Toilets

6th form block

The return to school in September will be as follows:

Tuesday 1st September: Staff Training Day.

Wednesday 2nd September: Term starts for Years 7 and 12 students only.

Thursday 3rd September: Term starts for Years 8, 9, 10, 11 and 13 students and all students will attend.

We appreciate the support and feedback that you have given us over the past months. There will, I am sure be many questions to answer over the next few weeks. Please be assured that we are committed to ensuring the educational provision at Bilton continues along the positive trajectory of recent years and that this is matched by the strategies that we have put in place to keep everyone safe.

Yours sincerely



Tim Chambers
Headteacher
Bilton School