



Our Reference: KH/GHR

4th March 2021

Dear parent/carer

Re-opening of school for all students – Monday 8th March 2021

Since the announcements by the Prime Minister and the Department for education (DfE) last week, we have been working on plans to ensure the safe and orderly return to school of all students from Monday 8th March. Central to these plans is a determination to minimise any further loss of learning. To that end, we started our testing programme for students this week to carry out the first of three tests students are required to take. DfE guidance states that students can return to classes after they have had their first negative test. Therefore, we are in a position for all students to return to classes from **Monday 8th March**.

This letter details the arrangements for the return to school.

To help mitigate any risks associated with the return of students, we will continue with the mandatory wearing of face coverings for all staff and students when moving between lessons. In addition, students and staff will now be required to wear face coverings during lessons. This is detailed in the latest DfE guidance, which can be found [here](#). If you require your child to be exempt from wearing a mask for a genuine medical reason only, you can contact the school via PastoralSupport@brookfieldcs.org.uk so that we can provide your child with a card to ensure they are easily identifiable to staff.

Other additional risk mitigation measures continuing from **8th March** include:

- One-way system around the school including entrances and exits to the various buildings.
- Tables and equipment being cleaned between all lessons in all teaching areas. Cleaning of all rooms before and after school will continue as normal.
- Shared equipment being sanitised between use.
- Additional hand sanitising stations in place outside every classroom.

Timings of the day/arrival to and departure from school/break and lunch arrangements

To maintain our aim to avoid excessive student gathering, the school start (8.30) and finish times (14.55) will remain the same as for the first term. The same entrances are to be used by different years groups at the start and end of each day. These are shown right.

Year groups	Entrance
Year 7, 11 and 12	Storrs Road gate
Years 8,9, 10 and 13	Chatsworth Road

We will retain staggered break and lunchtime arrangements, where different year groups only mix within their own 'bubble'. As with last term, no food will be available at breaktime, but students are encouraged to bring a snack if they wish.



Uniform and equipment

Students are required to wear full school uniform of their return. They should also come to school with correct equipment. Full details can be found on the school website [here](#).

Student support and wellbeing

This further period of school closure has been unsettling for many students and parents. The return to school will create anxieties for some students. Staff at school have been in contact with identified students throughout the partial closure to keep in touch and to offer support when required. On the first day back students will have an extended form period (see below), where tutors will spend time with students to provide reassurance and guidance.

If you are concerned about your child returning to school and feel that they might need any additional support, please get in touch with their form tutor in the first instance. Contact details can be found [here](#).

Extended form period – Monday 8th March

On Monday 8th March we will have an extended form period for all students to emphasise key messages around expectations, safety, social distancing and hygiene. This session will also allow students to reflect on what has gone well during lockdown, and what concerns remain.

Children with COVID-19 symptoms

A reminder that if your child develops symptoms at any time (such as a high temperature; a new, continuous cough; or a loss or change to their sense of smell or taste) they should not attend school and must immediately self-isolate, and book a test by calling 119 or visiting <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>.

I am sure we will agree that the return of all students is an exciting and welcome next stage in the gradual relaxation of national restrictions. Staff are looking forward to greeting students and getting on with vital function that education plays in the lives of young people.

Yours sincerely



Mr K Hirst
Headteacher