



Kirkby High School

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Dear Parent/Carer,

May I start this letter by thanking you for supporting your child with their learning during these strange times. When school closed to the majority of students back in March, we had no idea that it would continue like that for 17 weeks. School has, however, only been completely closed for 7 days since February but we are going to close fully over the summer. I believe that our students now need the summer break that they enjoy annually. Work will not be set from today when school will officially close at midday.

Year 11 Results

Due to continued restrictions on large gatherings we are unable to hold results day as normal. Instead, GCSE results will be emailed to all Year 11 students on Thursday 20th August 2020. A text message has been sent to parents requesting an appropriate email address. This email address should belong to the student and not the parent. Communication regarding college information will be emailed along with results and is currently on our school website. I know this is yet another missed opportunity for Year 11 to get together and it is not what I or any staff want either. I can only reiterate that we will bring all Year 11s back together for GCSE certificate presentation and prom, as mentioned in my previous letter.

September Opening 2020

We will open for all students in September but following government guidance published on July 2nd 2020, we have altered the way the school year will begin.

Wednesday 2nd September	Staff Training Day	All Staff
Thursday 3rd September	Year 7 Induction Day	Year 7 ONLY
Friday 4th September	Year 7 on Timetable	Year 7 ONLY
Monday 7th September	All Year Groups Start New Timetable	Year 7,8,9,10 and 11

Government guidance states that all students must return to school in September 2020. We are currently planning for this with two main aims:

- Ensuring a full curriculum for everyone over the course of the year
- Minimising students mixing by creating year group bubbles (as long as guidance is in place)

To enable this to occur:

- There will be five mini-schools within the school, each consisting of one year group with a clearly defined bubble zone
- KS3 (Year 7, 8 and 9) will be taught in form classes and in one classroom (except for PE)
- KS4 (Year 10 and 11) will be in newly created sets and there will be limited movement to allow for option subjects to take place, supported by a strict cleaning regime
- All rooms will have hand sanitisers
- There are plans in place to ensure breaks and lunch times facilitate new routines for safety



Awarded December 2018

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- The school day remains as it is, starting at 8.45am and finishing at 3pm but our motto 'Don't be late, be in for 8.38' remains in place as it allows students to be in the best frame of mind for a calm and punctual start to form time
- In Year 11, there will be supplemented virtual learning to support progress

Social Times

Students will continue to have one break and one lunch time. In order to spread this out safely throughout the day, KS4 (Year 10 and Year 11) lunchtime is being moved to 2pm.

Students in KS4 (Year 10 and Year 11) have two options:

- Option 1 – Have lunch at 2pm and go home when they have eaten
- Option 2 – Eat at break time and go straight home at 2pm

Students in KS3 (Year 7, 8 and 9) will have lunch earlier in the day and will therefore remain in lessons until 3pm.

Transport

Although government guidance suggests that young people should, where possible, walk to school we are currently working with Stagecoach to devise a plan for travel to and from school by bus. In line with guidance, the year group bubbles will expand into key stage bubbles for the purpose of transport. This means that there will be a KS3 (Year 7, 8 and 9) bus for each route to and from school followed by a KS4 (Year 10, and 11) bus for each route. Details and timings will be confirmed before your child returns to school in September. Please be prepared for the following:

- Each journey costs 50p
- Bus drivers will not be permitted to provide change
- Your child **must** have the exact change if they are to travel by bus
- It is advised that you provide your child with a mask to wear on the bus

Behaviour and Attitude Expectations

- Students will be expected to arrive to school dressed in full school uniform, including blazer and school shoes (no trainers) **(KHS UNIFORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT KIDS KIRKBY)**
- Each student will need a school bag as they will be responsible for their exercise books and equipment
- It is crucial that each student has a PE kit as they will be expected to wear this to school on the day they have PE on their timetable, which will be provided in September

It is important to note that the above plans are subject to change and if government guidance suggests that schools should open in the normal way, we have everything in place for that to happen too. I know that you will have many queries but I ask for your continued patience and I assure you that I will be in touch, by letter, at the end of August with a further update.

I am extremely grateful for the hard work, resilience and kindness of all members of the Kirkby High School community, not least parents/carers and students. September almost certainly won't be 'normal' but it will be moving in the right direction and I know that we will deal calmly and effectively with whatever happens. On behalf of governors and staff, I thank you for your continued support. I hope you have a lovely summer and that you continue to keep yourselves safe.

Yours sincerely



Mrs R Conefrey
Headteacher