



# Bishop Rawstorne Church of England Academy



10 July 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

Further to the In Touch message that was sent out earlier in the week to students currently in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10, and the email message to the parents of current Year 6 students, we are writing to you to provide a little more detail regarding our plans for the start of the new term which starts on Tuesday 25 August 2020.

First of all, there is a survey going out to you today from Mr Wood that needs to be filled in as soon as possible, so that we can collate the information for ourselves and for the bus providers ahead of the end of term. This information is essential in allowing us to plan effectively for the start of term.

Whilst you may have questions regarding the re-opening of school, some of the information below may answer some of those as will the risk assessment that will be available to you later on next week. The school day will run similarly to a normal school day, with a few minor adjustments in terms of timings. We will start at 9am and students will register at the start of Period One. Periods One and Two will run until 11am and there will then be a shorter break than previously, 15 minutes. Between 11.15am and 1.15pm we will have Periods Three and Four, with lunch at 1.15pm for 30 minutes. At 1.45pm students will have 15 minutes tutor time and Period Five will run from 2pm until 3pm. At 3pm students will be dismissed from class in a structured, planned way in order to maintain social distancing protocols.

Students in each year group will be in a designated area of school for the duration of each day, so that they are effectively bubbled and should not come into contact with students from other year groups in lessons, whilst moving around school and during breaks and lunchtimes. Protocols will be in place for maintaining cleanliness and sanitisation at the start and end of lessons, during break and lunchtimes, whilst entering school and moving around, using the toilet facilities and whilst travelling on the school buses, for those who choose that transport option. These bubbles will be of three weeks duration, at the end of which students will be accommodated in a different part of school for the next three weeks. The dining room will not be available for the usual service, students will not be able to sit in there during break-times and lunchtimes.

In terms of the buses, we are in daily contact with the bus providers as we discuss the procedures for safe travelling, including sanitisation, seating, protocols around face masks or coverings and queuing for the buses. We will send out guidelines for bus travel as soon as they are finalised, which will be after we have had a return of the survey information and are clear as to the numbers intending to travel on the buses. The buses bringing students to Bishop Rawstorne and taking them home at the end of the day are overwhelmingly dedicated buses, in other words buses that will

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only be used for our students and are not shared routes with other schools. These buses are not service buses that are available to the general public. We await final confirmation, but it is our understanding that issues regarding bus passes that have been raised with us, relate to service buses and not dedicated buses.

Huge differences in learning experiences outside of school will also have taken place, with some children engaged in learning life skills, and some engaging in sit down formal learning each day. Some children may have done no formal learning at all. The key thing for all of us as we focus on returning to school, parents, students and staff, is to stay safe. Underpinning this time of transition and renewal are relationships, all of us talking, listening and understanding. Children manage their emotions often quite differently to adults, and it's important for us all to keep them talking, to try to comfort and calm, where appropriate, as well as acknowledging what they've been through as very real and challenging.

This is a very brief overview of how school will operate from the start of the Autumn term, but the risk assessment will give you more detail as will the published Frequently Asked Questions which will be available on the school website from later on next week.

Please be assured of our very best endeavours to support and guide all of our students safely back into the happy routine of our Christian community.

Yours sincerely



Mr P Rawlinson  
Deputy Headteacher