



Dear Parent / Carer

I am writing to you to update you on our plans for September. Please read all of this information and share it with your child. The information I sent out in July is on our website if you wish to refer to it again.

Students will return to school on the dates detailed below. Members of staff will be outside the school building to direct students to the correct entry door each day.

Wednesday 09 September

- Year 7 – Students must arrive at school between 8.30 and 8.40 and will line up in their tutor groups on the tennis courts. They will finish school at 15.15
- Year 12 – Students must arrive at school between 11.10 and 11.20 and enter school through the Sportshall entrance. They will finish school at 15.00
- Students in other year groups do not need to attend school

Thursday 10 September

All year groups will be in school and must arrive during the arrival windows in the table below from Thursday 10 September. These details will stay the same for all school days for the foreseeable future.

Please note that Year 12 students should arrive at 11.10 to start lessons at 11.20 on Thursday 10 September and will then revert to their arrival time of 8.50 – 9.05 from Friday 11 September

Year Group	Arrive through	Arrival Window	Students must be in school no later than	Departure Time
8	Technology Firedoor	8.20 – 8.35	8.35	15.00
9	Main student entrance	8.20 – 8.35	8.35	15.00
7	Technology Firedoor	8.35 – 8.50	8.50	15.15
10	Main student entrance	8.35 – 8.50	8.50	15.15
11	Technology Firedoor	8.50 – 9.05	9.05	15.30
12 and 13	Sportshall entrance	8.50 – 9.05	9.05	15.30

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Further information will be given to students in Years 12 and 13, at the start of term, about supervised study during the school day and when they will be able to arrive at school if they do not have lessons at the start of a school day.

Students' arrival at school

Students should not arrive at school before their allocated arrival times. This will help us to maintain social distancing between year groups and ensure students access handwashing facilities at the same time as their own year group. Students will be expected to leave the school site once they are dismissed from school. Please contact school if this arrangement will lead to transport issues because of siblings arriving/ departing at different times.

Travelling to School

In line with Government guidance we recommend that students minimise their use of public transport and walk or cycle to school where possible. If students do need to use public transport First York have increased the number of buses that are running. Please see the school website for further details.

We have increased our cycle storage capacity and strengthened the security of the bike sheds at the front of school. Students should take their bikes to the following locations when they arrive at school

- Years 7, 8 and 11 Cycle sheds by the Sportshall
- Years 9,10 and Post 16 Cycle sheds at the front of school

Students should lock their bikes up using a secure bike lock. All bike shops should be able to advise you about suitable locks. We recommend that students wear a cycle helmet when cycling to and from school. Students who bring a bike to school do so at their own risk.

Pastoral support for students

From September pastoral teams will be allocated to year groups instead of by Houses. The teams for September are –

Year Team	Progress Leader	Pastoral Manager
7	Mrs C Vallis	Mrs A Blacker
8	Mr H Kirwan	Mrs S Walshaw
9	Mr T Day	Mrs E Crotty
10	Mrs P Dale	Miss C Cambridge
11	Miss D Shepherd	Mrs K Foster/Mrs J Clark

Students in Year 12 and 13 will continue to be supported by the existing Post 16 Team.

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Attendance

All students will be expected to attend school every day. Shielding advice for all adults and children paused on 01 August. This means that even students who were on the shielded patient list can return to school.

Please contact school if you have been given further medical advice that states your child should not attend school.

Uniform and equipment

All students will be expected to attend school in full uniform and meet our expectations about hair colouring and jewellery. Get Branded is open and orders can be placed online or at the shop itself. If you have any questions about uniform or would like advice about the suitability of any item of uniform, please do not hesitate to get in contact or see the uniform section on our website.

Students should bring a school bag and their personal equipment to school each day as normal. We ask that students are equipped with a black pen, green pen, pencil, rubber, ruler, calculator, dictionary, their student planner (this will be provided on the first day they are in school), and a reading book (essential for Years 7, 8 and 9 and recommended for other years). Students should not share equipment.

PE Lessons and Kit

Students will continue to have PE lessons and will need to have the appropriate PE kit. We have modified our PE changing rooms to increase the amount of space students have to change in and changing rooms will be cleaned before another year group uses them. Details of activities students will be doing will be shared with students once term has started.

Food at break and lunchtimes

The canteen will serve both hot food and sandwiches to students. The Hub and Street areas have been split into two areas with separate serving areas so that two year groups can be served at the same time in their year group bubbles. Our staggered break and lunchtimes allow for dining furniture to be cleaned between different year groups. Students will access handwashing facilities before they eat.

Money can be uploaded via Parent Pay as usual and Free School Meals will continue to be credited to students' accounts.

Due to the staggered start to the school day we are not able to serve food before school.

Meetings with Parents and Carers

To minimise the number of people on site we will not be arranging to meet parents and carers during the school day. Face to face meetings with parents and carers will be by prior appointment. This will allow us to arrange a suitable space to meet in whilst we maintain social distancing

Health and Safety

We have completed a lot of work to make sure the school site is as risk free as possible. It is impossible to eliminate all risks entirely but all students and members of staff will follow strict hygiene procedures and there will be much more regular cleaning throughout the school day. It is important to remember that your child should not come to school if they, or anyone in your household, has COVID 19 symptoms. If your child develops symptoms they will be sent home once we have contacted you and will be isolated in the

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meantime. We will follow advice from the Public Health team in York if we have confirmed cases of COVID 19 in school.

We have increased hand washing facilities in school and students will clean their hands when they arrive at school, before and after eating, and after using the toilet. We have some antibacterial gel in school but we recommend that students bring their own small bottle of gel so that they can use this at appropriate times during the school day. In line with Government guidance, students will be 'bubbled' in their own year group (with staggered arrival, breaktimes, lunchtimes and departure times) to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID 19. This means that students will be in the same part of the building for most of their school day and will use break and lunch facilities with other members of their year group only.

Face Coverings/Masks

There has been considerable debate in the media about the use of facemasks in school. The Director of Public Health in York is recommending that secondary school students should wear facemasks in corridor and communal areas of schools as part of our work to minimise the transmission of COVID 19. We are fully supportive of this proactive measure and are therefore recommending that all students and members of staff wear a facemask when they are in corridor or communal areas of the school.

Students will not be able to wear facemask in lessons. If your child has a medical condition that means they should wear a facemask in lesson time please contact school to discuss this.

Face masks that are worn in school should be suitable for a school environment; smart and without motifs and logos. We reserve the right to ask a student to change into a disposable face mask if we feel their face mask is not suitable for school. Students should bring a sealable plastic bag to place their facemask in when they are not wearing it.

Further information from the Director of Public Health for York, explaining their stance on facemasks, can be found in the letter that is attached to this information. There is also a link to information about safe use of facemasks in this letter. Please read this with your child so they are confident about how to use and wear facemasks safely.

I know that school will be very different to normal at the start of this academic year but I want to reassure you that we are committed to maintaining high standards and effectively engaging all students in face to face to learning.

We may need to amend some of our procedures once term has started, or if Government guidance changes, but we will keep you informed of any changes.

We are very much looking forward to seeing all of our students back in school.

Thank you for your continued support.

Dave Hewitt

Headteacher

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