



ASTLEY COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

One of the Seaton Valley Federation of Schools

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Executive Headteacher: John Barnes

Head of School: Graham Scott

2nd March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to share the details of our plan for the reopening of Astley Community High School from **Monday 8 March 2021**.

We are once again very much looking forward to welcoming back all of our students after yet another lockdown, however, school will still have to be very different to 'normal' and safety has had to be at the heart of all of our planning for this. We will continue to use the year group "bubble" system until we are advised that it is safe for all students to mingle freely around school. As usual, It is vital that all students adhere to the rules set.

Possibly the most significant change is that **students will be wearing face masks in school at all times** (apart from during PE lessons and when they are outside at least 2m away from each other). We will continue to monitor the advice from the government and Public Health England on this issue and respond to changes as they occur. If you feel that your child is unable to wear a face mask in school, then we ask that you provide further evidence to support your request given the new advice provided to schools. Specific information on other key areas is as follows:

Covid Lateral Flow Tests

We have already successfully undertaken this process since our return in January with students in our in-school provision. The roll out of tests to the whole school population will take place on the following days:

Thursday 4 March

AM - **Year 11** students in school for Covid test & then home.

Time	Y11 Student Group
9:00 - 9:45	Surnames A to E (inclusive)
9:45 - 10:30	Surnames F to K (inclusive)
10:30 - 11:15	Surnames L to R (inclusive)
11:15 - 12:00	Surnames S to Z (inclusive)

PM - **Year 13** students in school for Covid test & then home.

Time	Y13 Student Group
1:30 - 2:15	Surnames A to L (inclusive)
2:15 - 3:00	Surnames M to Z (inclusive)

Friday 5 March

AM - **All Year 10 & Year 9 Surnames A to G** students in school for Covid test & then home.

Time	Y9 (A to G) & Y10 Student Group
9:00 - 9:45	Year 9 Surnames A to G (inclusive)
9:45 - 10:30	Year 10 Surnames A to F (inclusive)
10:30 - 11:15	Year 10 Surnames G to L (inclusive)
11:15 - 12:00	Year 10 Surnames M to Z (inclusive)

PM - **All Year 12 & Year 9 Surnames H to Z** students in school for Covid test & then home.

Time	Y9 (H - Z) & Y12 Student Group
1:00 - 1:45	Year 9 Surnames H to O (inclusive)
1:45 - 2:30	Year 9 Surnames P to Z (inclusive)
2:30 - 3:15	Year 12 Surnames A to H (inclusive)
3:15 - 4:00	Year 12 Surnames I to Z (inclusive)

Students should report to the **sports hall** at the appropriate time. There is no need to go into any other part of the school, so please report straight to the back of school and ensure that a mask is worn. A reminder to also return any laptops if you have been part of the loan scheme. Car parking is available for parents/carers who wish to wait.

Monday 8 March

AM - **Year 11** second test
PM - **Year 13** second test

Tuesday 9 March

AM - **Year 10** second test
PM - **Year 12** second test

Wednesday 10 March

AM - **Year 9** second test
PM - catch-up tests

<u>Thursday 11 March</u>	AM - Year 11 third test PM - Year 13 third test
<u>Friday 12 March</u>	AM - Year 10 third test PM - Year 12 third test
<u>Monday 15 March</u>	AM - Year 9 third test PM - catch-up tests

Arrangements for Monday 8 March

Students should go straight to their form room at the start of the day and the normal timetable will resume at 9.05am, as we feel that it is in everyone's best interests to get back to lessons asap. Please check your child's start and end time, as year groups all differ.

Year Group Bubbles

As was the case before Christmas, students will be in year group 'bubbles' within a set zone of classrooms. The teachers will move to where the students are to teach their lessons. Students will need to move classes some of the time, but this room will be within the year group bubble. Classes will be set up in tables of two, facing the front, with tables more spaced out than they usually would be. Good personal hygiene habits are essential and the classrooms will be provided with tissues and anti-bacterial wipes to encourage this.

A reminder that most practical subjects such as Music, Art, Science and Technology may not always take place in their usual rooms, as we try to restrict movement around school. PE will be taught as usual, but staff will collect students from their bubble. If the weather is inclement, then as a last resort, the lesson may have to be classroom based.

As things progress, classes might move around to other classrooms, if this is viable and beneficial to their learning.

Breaks and Lunchtimes

Each year group has a specific outdoor area for breaks and lunchtimes. They will not mix with pupils from other bubbles and will be monitored by duty staff, to make sure students remain as socially distant as possible.

Year 9 will have their break/lunch outside on the picnic tables or in their classroom in the event of poor weather. They can bring in their own packed lunch or purchase/collect lunch from the hall as normal.

Year 10 will have their break in the Memorial garden and lunch period 9 in half of the dining hall or Memorial Garden should they wish.

Year 11 will have their break and lunch period 8 in half of the dining hall.

Years 12 & 13 will use Cafe 6 or sign out as normal.

The Curriculum and Timetable

We intend our curriculum and timetable to run as it was before Christmas. All lessons will be taught by subject specialist teachers, as they would normally be, but there will be some changes to the way in which the students work e.g. less group tasks or collaborative work and less movement in the classroom.

We will also be trying to assess where students are at in terms of their learning, as they have faced differing situations and challenges through the lockdown period.

Attendance

The government has made it very clear that all students are expected to attend school apart from those who are extremely clinically vulnerable and have been given a further shielding letter from a doctor.

Uniform

From 8 March, we will expect all aspects of our uniform policy to be followed again. This includes wearing the appropriate footwear and complying with other rules around jewellery, hair and makeup. We would really appreciate your assistance in helping us to re-establish the standards that we expect in terms of uniform. Once again, we will not be allowing students to use the PE changing rooms and on days where pupils have a PE lesson, we are asking them to attend in their school PE kit with a tracksuit or similar over the top. If you have any issues with uniform, please let us know asap.

Equipment/Phones

Students are to bring in their usual bags and school equipment. We discourage children from bringing phones into school, however, if they are brought in then **phones must not be used at any point during the school day.** This includes during lessons, on the corridors and at breaks and lunchtimes.

We will be operating a “phone out, phone gone” policy, where phones will be confiscated by staff if they are seen in school.

Behaviour

On the whole, behaviour was very good in the first term and students coped well with the challenges they faced. We are sure that this will continue, however, any student who does not conform to our expectations will be placed in the inclusion room for **the rest of that week at least** to ensure the security of their year group bubble or sent home after parents/carers have been contacted.

Extra Curricular Clubs/Activities/Detentions

We hope that we will be able to hold some extra-curricular clubs before Easter. Staff will send out more information regarding after-school clubs or activities if and when it is relevant. Year 9 enrichment activities will not take place for the rest of the year, so all students will leave school on Wednesday week 1 by 2.05pm.

The **Leadership Detention** will operate as normal on Friday after school until 4pm.

Other faculty/pastoral detentions will take place after school, but will be based in the individual year group bubble.

Transport

The school's transport system will be "business as usual". Just a reminder, that students will have to wear face masks on public transport, but these will have to be put in the bin on entry to school if they are paper and stored in a plastic wallet if they are material.

Concerns about returning to school

Understandably, the return to school will be an anxious time for many and it will take some getting used to for all of us. We are going to use the three weeks before the Easter holidays to get everyone settled back into our routines and expectations. If you think that your child is struggling in any way, please let us know.

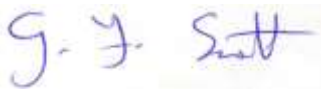
Once again, I would like to signpost **Kooth** to you. This is a free service which has online counselling, chat forums, topical information etc for young people who may be experiencing any emotional worries or difficulties. In addition, it would be helpful for us to know about any students who have experienced the loss of a family member during this crisis period, particularly as a result of COVID19.

As I said in August, my hope is that we can get Astley Community High School back to normal as quickly as we can, without compromising safety. We will be fully committed to helping all students catch up and reach their potential. More information on parents' evenings and possible trial examinations/assessments will follow in due course.

Finally, I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone for your unbelievable support over the last year and I hope that we can all get back to our normal lives very soon.

If you have any questions or concerns, please let us know. My very best wishes to you all.

Kind regards



Graham Scott
Head of School

ACHS Organisation Quick-Check Grid - Updated 2 March 2021

Topic/Year	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12/13
Usual Start Time	8.40am	8.50am	8.45am	8.55am
Usual Finish Time	2.55pm	3.05pm	3.00pm	3.10pm
Wed wk 1	2.00pm	2.05pm	2.00pm	2.05pm
Entrance & Exit	Gate B then via A8/A9	Gate C then via A3/A4	Gate D then via B8/B9 or PE corridor only	Gate A then via A1 or B4/B6 from outside only
Teaching Bases	Zone AD A3, A4, A5, A6, A7, A8 & A9	Zone AU A12, A13, A14, A17, A19, A20, A21, B14 & B16	Zone BU B4, B10, B11, B12, B17, B18 & Music	Zone ABD A1, A2, A10, A11, PE Room, Library, B6, B7, B8, B15 + Art Space (Students in B15 to arrive 5 minutes late to lessons)



Tutor Group Bases	9A A4 9E A5 9L A7 9S A8 9T A9	10A A17 10E A19 10L B14 10S A21 10T A13	11A B12 11E B10 11L B11 11S B17 11T Music	12A A10 12B A2 12C A11 12D PE 13A B6 13B B7 13C Lib 13D B8
ICT Access	A3 Chrome book only + 1 trolley in Maths cupboard	A12 & A14 Both PC's	PC's in B4 + 2 trollies + P1 has 2 trollies	A1- Chrome A10-Chrome A11- PC's Lib - 12 PC & 12 Chrome
Toilets	A Block Both	Portaloos	B Block Both	Sixth Form
Outdoor Break Area	Library Car Park	Memorial Garden	Yard	Cafe 6 & cycle area
Lunch Area	Library CarPark & In Classrooms	Half DiningHall (Clock end)	Half Dining Hall (Stage end)	Cafe 6 & cycle area
PE Days	PE Uniform with tracksuit over	PE Uniform with tracksuit over	PE Uniform with tracksuit over	N/A



Food	Packed Lunch & Main Hall Collect	Main Hall (Clock end)	Main Hall (Stage end)	Cafe 6
Lunch Supervision	Zone AD A.Gray C.French	Zone AU J.Allen C.Wright	Main Hall L.Comber A.Storey	Cafe 6 M.Woods A.Ferron
Break Supervision In Zones	2 staff + SLT	2 staff + SLT	2 staff + SLT	1 staff
SPL	Miss Gannon	Mr Carbutt	Mr Gilhooley	Mrs Gilhooley
SLT Link	Mr Scott	Ms Power	Mr Barnes	Mr Ironside

G F Scott
March 2021