

11 September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to you at the end of the first week in school to update you on how things are going.

Firstly, I would like to say thank you enormously for your support, reopening the school required a real 'partnership' between school and home.

I am able to report our first week has gone exceptionally well. Students (and staff!) are getting into the routines and working together to do our utmost to ensure the school day is efficient and all students and staff are safe.

The following (in no particular order) are the matters I would like to raise with you:

1. Thank you for ensuring non bus students are not on site until 8.20 am as this is working and is very much appreciated.
2. Please may I ask you to encourage your children to wash their hands and sanitise during the day. If they don't have any sanitiser and you are able to purchase some for them, this would be excellent.
3. One of the casualties of staff distancing from students is that, for the moment, tutors are unable to sign diaries. If you have any urgent matters for staff (including tutors) please email them. If you are not sure who to email, please just use the office email address (via the website).
4. Please will you remind your child to try to stand 2 metres away from staff.
5. I am afraid at the moment we will not be able to allow year 7 – 11 students to use their lockers. I appreciate students have paid for these but we need to reduce as much movement across the site as we are able and reluctantly have identified this as an issue. Children are advised to bring to school the items they need and clear their bags out each evening so they are not carrying too much.
6. Social distancing at the end of the school day is an issue we have identified and I am afraid we need your help with this. Along with many other schools we have now taken the decision to stagger the end of the day slightly in order to ensure students are not mixing as they leave the site. Timings are as follows:

15.20 Year 7
15.25 Year 8
15.30 Year 9
15.30 Year 10
15.30 Year 11
15.30 Year 12 and 13

Students in Year 7 and 8 will be brought to the outside of buildings, students who walk will then leave the site and students who take a bus will be escorted to the bus zones.



Years 9, 10 and 11 will return to their zones at 3.30 pm with staff dismissing them in turn.
Year 12 and 13 will leave the site as normal.

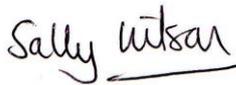
I am sorry we have needed to make these changes as I had hoped the end of the day would work without staggering our exit. If your child is able to leave via the Milldown gate at the end of the day we would be delighted, this will help student movement out through the leisure centre car park.

If Year 7 & 8 parents/carers collect children by car and you are able to leave the site once the children come out, this will also help as it will relieve pressure on the car park.

Once again thank you very much for your support. It is wonderful to have the school open again and fabulous to see students back with their friends and focused on their learning.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely



Sally Wilson
Headteacher

