

LANCASTER ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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10th July 2020

Dear Parents,

I am writing with an update on our plans for full re-opening in September. We are very much looking forward to welcoming all pupils back!

Start of term

We will stagger the first day of term for each year group as follows. These include some changes from our previously published dates:

Tuesday 1 st September	Staff inset – no pupils in school
Wednesday 2 nd September	Year 7 and Lower Sixth induction
Thursday 3 rd September	Year 9 and Year 10
Friday 4 th September	Upper Sixth
Monday 7 th September	Year 8 and Year 11

This will give time to show pupils the new systems and procedures in school.

Prevention and minimal mixing

All children are expected to return in September. The government guidance sets out key principles for schools to offer a full educational experience while minimising any possible risks to pupils.

There are several important preventative measures. Any pupil with symptoms or who has a household member with symptoms must stay at home. Hygiene procedures include frequent hand-washing at new sanitation stations around the school; respiratory hygiene measures (“Catch it, bin it, kill it”); and enhanced cleaning of the school site.

Schools must minimise mixing and contact between groups of pupils. In secondary schools, pupils can mix within their year group, but mixing between different year groups must be minimised. Pupils should remain socially distanced where possible, and movement around the school site should be minimised.

Year group zones

The main change for pupils is that they will remain in one zone of the school for most of their lessons, instead of moving to different buildings for each subject.

They will also have a defined outside space and play area for their year group, and particular slots in dining facilities at break and lunchtime. We will have some new catering outlets on site.

The plan for those zones is as follows:

Year 7	International Building
Year 8	New Building – upstairs classrooms
Year 9	New Building – downstairs classrooms
Year 10	Timberlake building and Biology labs
Year 11	Swainson building and science labs 10 and 11
Lower Sixth	Old School House
Upper Sixth	Science labs and Sixth Form centre downstairs

Pupils will have some lessons in specialist rooms elsewhere, such as Music, Art, Technology, Drama and PE. Those areas will be cleaned between sessions with pupils from different year groups.

Timetable

The school day will start as usual with registration at 8:50am, and continue to follow a seven period timetable. Most assemblies will take place in form rooms on Teams.

There are some changes to timings within the day. Lunchtime will be shortened to 45 minutes. Years 8, 10 and the Lower Sixth will have an earlier lunch (12:20pm) and begin period 5 at 1:05pm; Years 7, 9, 11 and the Upper Sixth will have lunch at 1:05pm, and return to lessons at 1:50pm.

The school day will end slightly earlier than at present, at 3:15pm (Years 8, 10, Lower Sixth) or 3:20pm (Years 7, 9, 11, Upper Sixth).

Uniform and equipment

Pupils should wear full school uniform (or normal dress code for Sixth Formers), and may bring coats and bags to school as normal.

Face masks are welcome but not required. They should be of plain design.

Sharing of equipment between pupils in school will be minimised. It will be important that each pupil brings a full pencil case, calculator and reading book each day.

Transport

The government encourages as many pupils as possible to walk or cycle to school. Pupils are discouraged from using public transport (other than dedicated school buses) where possible.

We are in discussion with bus companies as they plan for September. They are considering additional measures include hand sanitising on entry, face masks, and reduced sharing with pupils from other schools where possible.

We have been asked by Lancashire County Council to collect information regarding pupils' intended travel to school in September.

Please can you complete the following survey by the **end of Monday 13th July 2020** so we can share this information with them before the end of term.

[Click here to complete the travel survey](#)

Practical activities

Pupils will continue to study all subjects with their specialist teachers. Some practical activities will need to be modified in September for example in Games, P.E. and Music – but rest assured that we will keep your children active and developing their skills in all these areas!

Guidance in those areas is under constant review. We hope that circumstances will soon allow those areas to continue to provide the full range of opportunities which are important to so many pupils at LRGS.

All of these plans and procedures will be fully explained to pupils on their first morning in school. We will keep parents updated with any further changes.

Yours faithfully,

Dr C J Pyle
Headmaster