



August 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope this letter finds you well and you are enjoying what is left of our summer holidays. The last five months have been like none we have ever known before. We have all had to dig deep and really live the Clifton Way in our daily lives. Everyone in our school community is looking forward to welcoming all of our students back in September and would like to take this opportunity to share with you in greater detail our return plans.

Start Dates

The safety of students and staff will continue to be central to our planning. In order to allow us to ensure government guidance and procedures are fully in place we will operate a staggered start to the year:

- Monday 31st August – August bank holiday (school closed)
- Tuesday 1st September - INSET day (school closed to students)
- **Wednesday 2nd September**, school will reopen to all students in **Year 7** and **Year 11**
- **Monday 7th September**, school will open to all **Year 10 students** (in addition to **Year 7** and **Year 11**)
- **Wednesday 9th September**, school will open to all **Year 8** students (in addition to **Year 7, Year 10** and **Year 11**)
- **Monday 14th September school** will be open to all **Year 9** students and commence full reopening

Limiting Contacts

As explained in our previous correspondence, we will operate a “bubble” principle, where each year group will spend their school week together in a designated area. The “bubble” principle is based on preventing students coming into contact with other year groups, therefore reducing the opportunities for spreading infection, and enabling us to help NHS track and trace should the need arise. Year groups will also have a specific **start** and **end time** and designated **entrance** and **exit** to school. The details of this are in the table below and your child will also receive an information video, which will be emailed by their Head of Year explaining their specific entrance to school and everything they need to know for arriving on their first day.

	Start Time	End Time	Entrance
Year 7	8.30 a.m.	2.55 p.m.	Middle Lane Entrance into Main Reception.
Year 8	8.40 a.m.	3.05 p.m.	Middle Lane staff carpark entrance and doors onto D.T Corridor.
Year 9	8.50 a.m.	3.15 p.m.	Oxford Street entrance and across the yard onto the English corridor.
Year 10	9.00 a.m.	3.25 p.m.	Cambridge Street entrance and middle door/upstairs to Humanities.

“We aim to send every young person into the world able and qualified to play their full role in it”

Year 11	9.10 a.m.	3.35 p.m.	Middle Lane visitor's carpark and green doors (Reception 2) onto MfL corridor.
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It is essential that all students arrive at these designated times and via the correct entrance. Staff will be on duty at each of the gates to greet and dismiss students at the start and end of school. Any student arriving late to school must report to Main Reception.

Uniform and Equipment

Your child is expected to return to school in their full school uniform. They do not need to wear school uniform on the day they have practical PE. Instead, they should come to school in their PE kit, because the changing facility will not be available. This may change as the weather changes, but will be in place for the first half term.

Students should not share equipment in school. We expect each student to arrive equipped with the basics for lessons: school bag, pencil case, pen, pencil, rubber and ruler.

Break and Lunch Time

Your child's "bubble" will be allocated a 'break' slot, and a 'lunch' slot. During the break slot students will be expected to go outside, unless in very bad weather, where they will be allowed to remain in their classroom base. On their 'lunch' slot, they will have access to a set canteen area. Again, this is to limit the different year group bubbles coming into contact with each other. It is preferable that students bring a packed lunch, however the canteens will be open and a limited food menu will be available. Please supply your child with a snack / drink to have during their other break time, as access to the canteen will not be available outside their lunch slot. We need to limit the use of money in school, so parents should ensure there are adequate funds on their child's account via Parent Pay. This is the safest way for your child to pay for their food. Your child should also bring adequate water to school, as we are unable to use the water fountains at present.

Attendance

You will have seen from government announcements that attendance to school will again be compulsory from September. It is vital, now more than ever, that you ensure your child attends school every day, unless they or a household member are showing any symptoms of Covid 19.

Visitors to the school site

In order to limit the number of visitors to school, please can you phone or email to make an appointment. September is likely to be a busy time, so we would ask you to be patient if it takes a while longer than normal for your call to be answered.

Hopefully, our return to school in September will be the signal of a return to some normality. We are really looking forward to the start of the new term. Your continued support is much appreciated and the combination: home, school and student here at Clifton will prove to be unbeatable, even in these challenging times.

Yours sincerely



Mr T. Hardcastle
Headteacher