



# THE ECCLESBOURNE SCHOOL

*'Learning Together For The Future'*

Head Teacher  
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Tuesday 14 July 2020

## **Examination Results and Full School Re-Opening - Arrangements**

Dear Parents and Carers,

We wrote a week ago to let you know that school will be open to all students from Thursday 3 September. Detailed arrangements for the safe management of re-opening are now in place. While changes in the government's advice and guidance are likely to continue, it is important to give you as much information as we can so that you are able to prepare. The safety of students and staff remains our priority and our plans for increasing the numbers of students in school proceed from this.

### **Getting to and from school**

Students should avoid public transport, if at all possible. While the local authority will be operating a bus service on all routes from September, they have informed us that they are still waiting for the government's guidance on the safe operation of school transport and will contact parents as soon as possible with more information and to estimate likely demand. A face mask is compulsory on buses and so we are asking that parents provide their children with two washable face masks to allow for overnight cleaning. There is ample cycle storage space in school for students wishing to cycle to school. Any student who wishes to cycle to school must wear a safety helmet. Parents dropping off or picking up children at school by car will be able to use a designated and supervised area in the entrance turning circle. We ask that parents do not leave their cars or stay to talk to other parents. It is important that students do not gather in groups on the way to and from school but instead make their way directly. Local businesses in the neighbourhood of the school are out of bounds.

### **Year Group 'Bubbles'**

In line with government guidance, the school plan for re-opening is based on the following key principles: a requirement that people who are ill stay at home; robust hand and respiratory hygiene; enhanced cleaning arrangements; active engagement with NHS Test and Trace and reducing contacts between those in school wherever possible to minimise potential for infection. This approach has been described by the government as maintaining pupil 'bubbles' which must be kept separate as far as practically possible.

In order to achieve this, we have timetabled year group 'bubbles' in six separate areas of the school. Years 7, 8 and 9 will each have their own year group base together with a designated playground to use at break and lunchtime. They will not need to move around school and will have their own form and classroom. When accessing specialist teaching such as PE lessons their movement will be supervised. Years 10 and 11 will be based in the Maths and English Blocks respectively and will also have supervised access to specialist classrooms for options subjects. The VI Form will be based in B/C Block, with access to F Block and the Sixth Form Centre. You will receive a separate letter this week from the pastoral team with details of your child's form room. On the first day of term Year 7 students will be directed to the Sports Hall and all other students will go directly to their form room for induction.

All teaching spaces and entry points are well equipped with hand sanitiser dispensers and students will be reminded to use them regularly. Toilet queuing will be kept to a minimum and supervised. Room lay-out with forward facing desks, floor marking, signage and supervision will reinforce safe spacing. Once in school, students will be based in one of our designated year group zones and teachers will move to students. Arrangements are in place for enhanced cleaning of all teaching spaces.

### **The school day and curriculum**

From September we will operate a staggered start and end of day. Form tutors will be available in form rooms from 8.40 each day. Students arriving by school bus will be escorted from the bus bay to their year group base. For students who do not use the school buses the staggered start times are as follows: VI Form should arrive at school for 8.40, Year 10 and 11 for 8.50 and Years 7-9 for 9.00. At the end of the day, VI Form will leave at 3.30, Year 10 and 11 at 3.35 and Years 7, 8 and 9 at 3.40. Students who use the school bus service will be provided with a year group waiting area to enable the safe organisation of children on to the buses. Organising the school site into year group mini-schools means that time lost due to movement will be kept to a minimum. We will be able to maximise lesson time and offer a full, broad and balanced curriculum and we do not propose to shorten break or lunchtime. Students may bring a packed lunch to school or pre-order one from our on-site caterers using Parent Pay. Pre-ordered lunches will be delivered to the year group base so there will be no need for queuing or lunch rotas. While the current restrictions continue we will not be able to offer the usual range of extra-curricular opportunities and trips. Rest assured that we will work hard to reintroduce them when it is safe to do so.

### **Uniform and equipment**

We expect students to be in full school uniform. Information about our uniform and equipment list, including the VI Form, has been issued and is available on the school website. If you have any specific enquiries regarding uniform, please contact Mrs Owen-Moore (Head of Lower School) or Mr Carnwell (Head of Sixth Form).

Sharing of equipment requires careful management by subject staff and so, to keep this to a minimum, it is important that students come to school fully equipped. Students should stock their pencil case with pens, pencils, eraser, ruler, protractor, compass, glue stick, scientific calculator, pocket dictionary and highlighters.

Government guidance currently states that face masks are not required in school, however, students may wear face masks or face coverings in school if they choose to do so. Students using buses must wear a face mask when travelling to and from school. For this reason, it is expected that parents provide students with two washable face masks. When removing face coverings pupils must wash their hands immediately beforehand and dispose of temporary face coverings in a covered bin or place reusable face coverings in a plastic bag they can take home with them, and then wash their hands again. Students will be given training on how to use face masks correctly.

### **Behaviour**

As we prepare to return and open the school to all students, it is important that student behaviour and compliance with health and safety rules is excellent. Our behaviour and discipline policy sets out our expected standards. All students returning to school will have a health and safety induction and our procedures for operating safely will be clearly explained. Failure to abide by the rules and guidance on safety and social distancing will be considered a serious breach of the behaviour policy.

## What to do if you are unwell

Students, parents, carers or visitors, must not come to school if they are displaying any symptoms of coronavirus. Details of the procedures to follow can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>. If a student at school presents with symptoms, then they will be looked after in isolation and parents and carers contacted to collect them.

## Examination Results and Book Return

### 13 August: A Level Results Day

Exam results may be collected in person or we can issue them via email. Guidance staff will be available in school from 8.00 am to help and to advise students. On arrival, students will be directed to one of four of our largest spaces to collect results and book an appointment with guidance staff if needed. Collection zones will be managed with 2 metre social distancing and it is important that students do not gather before or after but instead make their way directly to and from school safely and responsibly. Please bring with you any textbooks that need to be returned to school and if you will not be collecting results then you can return your books dropping them off at Reception before the start of term. **If you would prefer your results to be sent via email and will not be collecting your results in person, please email [exams@ecclesbourne.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:exams@ecclesbourne.derbyshire.sch.uk)**

Year 13	8.00 -10.00	Main Hall: 13M & 13C	Sports Hall: 13A, 13J, & 13B	R1: 13P & 13R	R2: 13W & 13D
Year 12	11.00-1.00	Main Hall: 12P and 12B	Sports Hall: 12G and 12H	R1: 12C and 12J	R2: 12N and 12S

### 20 August: GCSE Results Day

Year 11	8.00 -10.00	Main Hall: 11B & 11D	Sports Hall: 11F, 11L & 11H	R1: 11J & 11K	R2: 11M & 11S
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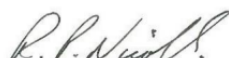
We would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone in the Ecclesbourne community a happy and healthy summer. Please do stay safe and continue to follow the public health advice. In the meantime, school is staffed over the summer period and so if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us by telephone or email.

Yours sincerely



James McNamara

Head Teacher



Robert Nicoll

Deputy Head Teacher