



17 July 2020

End of Academic Year and September 2020 Plans

Dear Parents and Carers,

I write to confirm arrangements for the end of term, summer holidays and return to school in September 2020.

Firstly, I wish to sincerely thank you for the support provided for your children at home over the last 16 weeks. When the national lock down period began, no-one could have predicted the impact of such a significant change on everyone's lives. I realise that juggling the demands of work, family commitments, and children at home for an extended period of time, has tested us all to the limit. Our community has shown great resilience, courage and positivity during these challenging times.

I am also very grateful for your support for the school and its staff, who have worked hard to maintain some normality to school life for your children by offering remote teaching, learning and development opportunities over the lock down. When I wrote to you earlier, I noted that none of the provision offered could replace the full benefits of face to face schooling. I do hope that the school's efforts to remain connected to our students and families whilst in lock down have provided stability and routine for your children, and maintained their interest in learning.

At this time it is also important to recognise and congratulate our student body who have had to deal with the impact of lock down, limited on site school provision and the challenges of working remotely for an extended period of time. The vast majority of our students have embraced online learning opportunities with diligence and hard work. Many have got involved in the physical challenges, quizzes and enrichment activities on offer, posted videos of their involvement, and shared their Class Charts work with their teachers. Recently, many have accessed the Microsoft Teams live and recorded lessons to supplement their school work.

As we approach the summer holidays we feel all of our students will benefit from a period of time without the pressure of additional study and independent learning. As a result, our teaching staff will not be providing additional work on Class Charts during the summer holidays. Students who do however want to continue their independent learning, can explore the 'Future Learn' website. This site provides direct access to a wide range of online training courses with world-class universities and industry experts. Students are able to access free online training courses, support their learning of new skills or pursue new hobbies with flexible online courses. In addition, we also stress the value of reading a range of books and wider literature. It is important students regularly read material that is interesting and supports their wider reading development. Students can also browse the school library catalogue and reserve books in readiness for September.

Obviously the cancelling of external examinations was a huge disappointment for our Year 11, 12 and 13 students. Although these students have not been able to sit GCSE and A Level examinations the work they have completed in preparation for the examination period will not go unrewarded. We wish all students collecting AS, A2 and GCSE and equivalent results in August very best wishes and hope the outcomes of these results meet with their future expectations. Separate letters for Year 11, 12 and 13 students are included from Mr Melton, Senior Assistant Headteacher, and Mrs Burton, Head of Post 16, explaining how results will be shared with students.



As with every year, there have been many highs and lows in school. The conversion to academy status in October 2019 has brought the freedom to innovate and work in partnership with the nine other Redhill Academy Trust schools. This partnership is accelerating the progress that the school is making in delivering the highest quality teaching and learning for all of our children. In addition, the collective learning around school systems and procedures has ensured that we all continue to strive for the very best in all that the school offers.

The loss of a teaching colleague and student brought great sadness to the school and its community this year, and together with the onset of Covid-19 and the lockdown period, many exciting opportunities including trips locally and abroad for our students have been lost. However, as a school, we are determined to ensure that, when allowed and feasible, these opportunities will be provided again for our students.

Changes to teaching staff / leadership roles from September 2020

We wish all departing colleagues good luck and extend our sincere thanks to them all for their hard work and commitment to the school and its students.

	Departing	Arriving Teachers / Permanent New roles
Mrs J Erwin	Teacher of Humanities retires after 30 Years of Service	Miss N Raynes Teacher of Humanities (Maternity cover)
Miss T Gooch	SENDCO and Leader of Enhanced Learning retires after 25 years of service	Mrs S Burton SENDCO and Deputy Leader of Inclusion (Internal - New role)
Miss J Dieckhoener-Kelly	Deputy Leader of Social Sciences moving abroad after 9 years of service	Mrs J Rodgers Leader of Business and Economics
Mr G Herron	Teacher of Maths retires after 6 years of service	
Miss L Robb	Teacher of Social Science moving abroad after 5 years of service	Miss R Nutting Teacher of Social Sciences
Mr G Hannon	Teacher of Business and Economics leaves the school after 1 year of service	Mrs L Hickman Leader of Law (Internal – New Role)
		Miss A Delaney Teacher of Modern Foreign Languages
		Mr R Wilson Deputy Leader of Modern Foreign Languages (Internal – New role)
		Miss N Campbell Deputy Leader of Maths. (Internal – New role)
		Mr S Pateman Head of Hunloke House (New role - Previous Deputy Head of House - Maternity Cover)
		Mr R Reid Deputy Head of Hunloke House (New role - Maternity cover)

We also sincerely thank the following long serving support staff for their commitment and dedication to the school; Mrs J Nutt 33 years, Mrs P Markham 21 years, Mrs S McFarling 18 years and Mrs B Margerson 13 years.



Please see the next section of the letter which explains our initial plans for students returning to school in September 2020 on a phased basis. For confirmation and planning at home at this point, please note the dates and times below.

- **Friday 4 September - Year 7 and Year 12 students only. Arrive at school between 7.45 am and 8.20 am for an 8.30 am start. Students are requested to bring their own lunch, snacks and drinks. A packed lunch will be provided for students eligible for a free school meal.**
- **Monday 7 September 8.30 am all students. Arrive at school between 7.45 am and 8.20 am for an 8.30 am start.**
 - **The day will begin with all students in Year based House tutor groups for an extended tutor period. See planning document included with this letter.**

Wishing you a healthy and happy summer period. We are looking forward to welcoming all of our students back to school in September 2020.

Yours sincerely

Mr Andrew J Knowles
Headteacher



Initial Planning for full school opening in September 2020

In order to support the government's ambition for full school opening in September 2020, we are planning to make some organisational changes in school in order to comply with government guidance and most importantly, to keep risks to a minimum. As with our planning for wider opening in June, there will be a detailed risk assessment that supports the actions that we are planning in school. This risk assessment will have safety for all at the heart of its intentions. I am sure you will appreciate that we will be working through this planning process over the next 3-4 weeks, therefore at this point I am sharing the broad principles of the plan to provide you with some initial important information. We expect further guidance from the government, particularly around school transport, imminently. I will write again to you in early August with detailed plans.

Basic Principles:

- Delivery of a full and balanced curriculum for all students
- Minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school
- Routines that ensure that students clean hands thoroughly and more often than usual
- Routines to provide good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach
- Enhanced cleaning routines in school, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces
- Minimising contact between individuals and maintaining social distancing wherever possible by keeping students in year group zones for as much as practically possible

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-in-the-autumn-term>

Revised School Day:

The following school day will be in operation from September 2020 until such time as Covid-19 restrictions are lifted. Students will be based in the following curriculum blocks.

AM Form	Y7 - English	Y8 - MFL	Y9 - Sci/DT	Y10 - Hums	Y11 - Maths	Post 16
8.30 – 9.00	Form	Form	Form	Form	Form	Form
9.00 – 9.30	P1	P1	P1	P1	P1	P1
9.30 – 10.00	P1	P1	P1	P1	P1	P1
10.00 – 10.30	Break	P2	P2	P2	Break	Break
10.30 – 11.00	P2	P2	P2	P2	P2	P2
11.00 – 11.30	P2	Break	Break	Break	P2	P2
11.30 – 12.00	P3	P3	P3	P3	P3	P3
12.00 – 12.30	P3	P3	P3	P3	P3	P3
12.30 – 1.00	Lunch	P4	P4	P4	Lunch	Lunch
1.00 – 1.30	P4	P4	P4	P4	P4	P4
1.30 – 2.00	P4	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	P4	P4
2.00 – 2.30	P5	P5	P5	P5	P5	P5
2.30 – 3.00	P5	P5	P5	P5	P5	P5

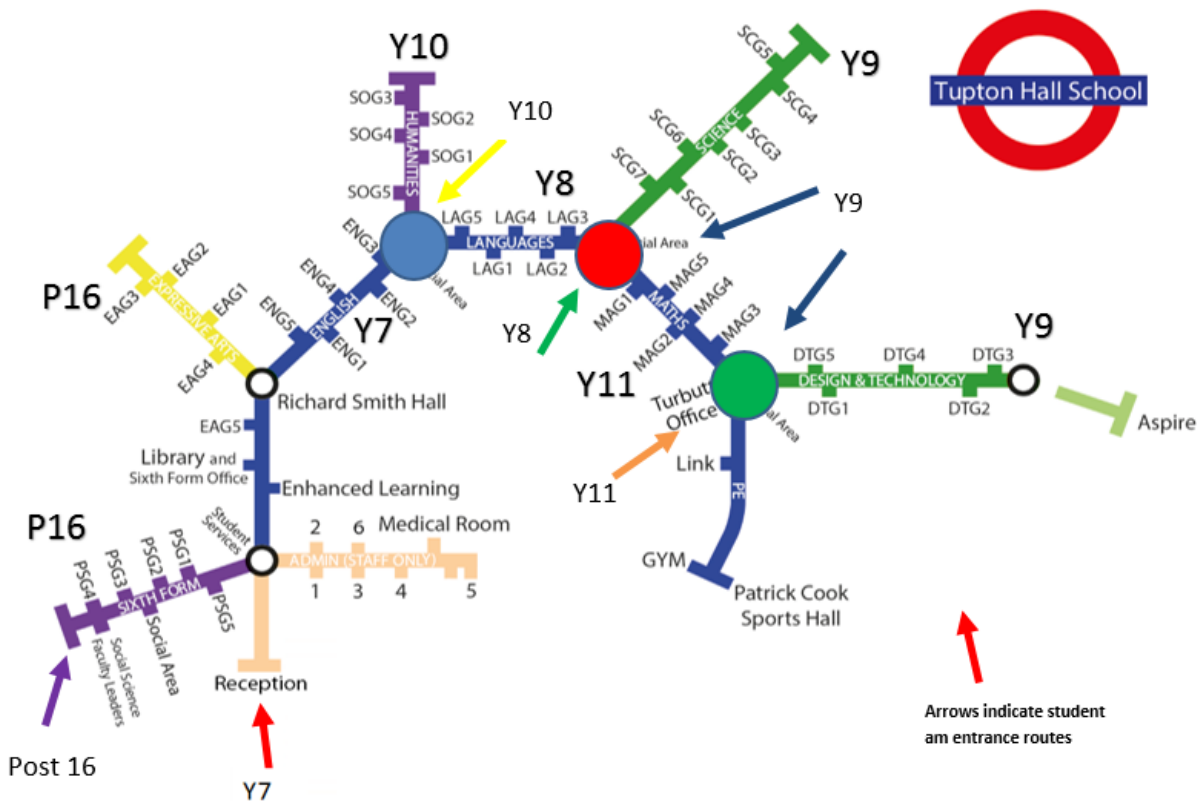


Notes of immediate interest for parents:

- A DW bus service will be provided for students who cannot travel to school using other means. Please complete the linked survey below as soon as possible, even if you do not intend to use bus travel at this time <https://wh1.snapsurveys.com/s.asp?k=159431407337> (The link is available on the school website located on the electronic copy of this letter) This will inform Derbyshire County Council of the wider transport planning required for September 2020.
- Pastoral forms will be re-organised into Year groups, however students' house identities will be maintained.
- Break and lunchtimes will be staggered.
- There will be catering provided for students from Monday 7 September 2020.

Year Group Zoning:

Students will arrive at school and be directed to enter the school buildings through separate entrances as indicated on the map below. They will be taught for the majority of their school day and week in their Year group zone. There will be occasions when they move out of the zone for specialist provision. This movement will utilise outdoor spaces and entries to areas of the school. Any area used by more than one year group will be cleaned between usages. Detail on classroom equipment, specialist provision, lesson preparation and practical subjects will follow.





Extra-curricular Activities

During the first few weeks of term there will not be any extracurricular provision on offer. However, once routines are established and safe practice is secured, school will offer enrichment and extra-curricular activities for students in each year group.

Pastoral Support

School understands how this pandemic may have affected our students' mental health and wellness. Included with this letter is a booklet 'Hello, how are you?' This is intended to support all of our students in terms of preparation for returning to school. One of the school safeguarding leads will be available by phone over the summer holiday if there are any safeguarding issues that parents wish to discuss with someone at school. Parents should ring the normal school phone number (01246 863127) and they will be put in touch with the relevant member of staff. Please note- the school is closed to all staff in the third week of the summer holidays beginning 3 August 2020. If parents have an urgent concern that week please contact Starting Point on 01629 533190. If a parent has an urgent concern about the safety of a child **at any time** they should contact Starting Point on the number above.