

18 August 2020

Dear Parents & Carers,

**Re: Return to school**

I hope this letter finds you well. I thought it might be a good idea to send you an update with arrangements for the new term.

**Phased return**

We are bringing the children back in stages so that we can teach them how to behave safely in the academy and help them get used to our new way of operating. We will meet the pupils when they arrive and tell them where to go so please reassure your child.

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September – Staff training day

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September – Y11 arrive 8.20am, Y7 arrive 8.45am

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September – Y11 & 10 arrive 8.20am, Y7 & 8 arrive 8.45am

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September – Y11, 10 & 9 arrive 8.20am, Y7 & 8 arrive 8.45am

**Staggered start and finish times**

Until further notice pupils in Y7 & 8 will start at 8.45am and finish at 2.45pm.

Pupils in Years 9 & 10 will start at 8.20am and finish at 2.30pm.

Pupils in Y11 will start at 8.20am. Our staff have agreed to run after school intervention sessions for Y11 every day until 3.30pm and all pupils are expected to attend. After so much time out of education it is important we give pupils as much support as possible in order to catch up. The sessions will be run by teaching staff, subject directors from the Delta Academies Trust core team and also tutors who will work with pupils in small groups across a range of subjects.

**Year group bubbles**

Each year group will use a different entrance and will wash their hands upon arrival in their allocated sinks. The senior leadership team and learning managers will be on duty to greet pupils when they arrive and supervise social times. We have to try to keep year groups apart wherever possible so different areas will be used. This also means that in the morning, pupils will go straight to their first lesson and the dining hall will not be in use. It is important that pupils eat breakfast at home as they cannot eat in the classrooms and they should not arrive excessively early to the academy in the morning.

	<b>Entrance</b>	<b>Bubble</b>	<b>Toilets</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>Year 7</b>	Food Technology doors	Creative arts	Art / Performing arts	Section 1 (B)
<b>Year 8</b>	Student services	Science	Dining hall	Section 1 (A)
<b>Year 9</b>	Maths	Maths	Maths	Section 2 (B)
<b>Year 10</b>	Humanities stairs	Humanities	Humanities	Section 2 (A)
<b>Year 11</b>	Student services	English	Library	Theatre (B)

## Food & Drink

We will continue to sell food and drink at break as well as lunch but will not offer breakfast in the first stages of reopening. We have new water fountains in the dining hall and in the PE block which pupils can use to fill a water bottle. The kitchen will operate on a cash free basis so money must be added to accounts by ParentPay as the machines cannot be used to add cash in school. We will provide lunch for Y7 on the first day. Pupils are still allowed to bring in a packed lunch.

**Note: Y7 pupils will be given a letter on 2<sup>nd</sup> September to bring home which will enable you to set up a ParentPay account for them to use from 3<sup>rd</sup> September.**

## Transport

Pupils are encouraged to walk or cycle to school. If they have to catch a bus they will need a face mask. Facemasks must either be disposed of before entering the academy or stored in a sealed plastic bag in their school bag. As before closure, the school gates will be closed to keep the site safe during arrival and departure times so **you will not have access** to drop off/pick up children on site.

## Attendance

The Department for Education has instructed that all parents of children of school age have a legal duty to ensure their children attend school. Consequently, the system of fines has been reinstated. However, if your child is not well or if anyone else in your household has Covid-19 or displays symptoms it is important that they stay at home and do not attend until a test result has been obtained which is negative or they have fully recovered in line with isolation guidance. Tests can be applied for online at [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) or call 119. Test results should return within 24 hours from test centres. Please keep us informed and send your results in afterwards for our records. It is crucial that we work together effectively to try to avoid an outbreak and keep everyone safe.

## Questions

If you have any further questions please send us a message using SchoolComms and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

Enjoy what is left of the holiday and I look forward to seeing everyone soon.

Kind Regards

Mrs A Rooney  
Principal, De Warrenne Academy