



Presfield High School & Specialist College

Headteacher: Tony Fay

28/08/2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you have enjoyed the summer, stayed safe and managed to relax a little during all the chaos that seems to have occurred in the country. As a secondary school, we have been busy trying to ready the school for the student's full return. Something that the staff and I are really looking forward to. We can't wait to see the students back and hear all their stories. I am sure many will have changed significantly over the past few months. Please rest assured we have taken many steps to try to keep the students and staff as safe as we possibly can. All measures will be under constant review and subject to change. If they are not working or the national/local picture changes we will adapt accordingly. Our most up to date risk assessment is on the school website for your information and is under constant review (changes are colour coded for ease of use).

Obviously due to Covid 19 the school will not be quite the same for all the students. We have changed some tutor classes to support our zoning of the school; some students will be in a different room that they may have expected. We will endeavour to contact students and parents to help prepare them for any such change.

We are all very aware of anxieties our students may have returning and in particular how our new Year 7 intake will be supported to integrate with the rest of the school. You are all aware of the emphasis we place on supporting our student's social skills and understanding. This will be more difficult as we will be discouraging larger social gatherings in the first instance. We will not gather as a full school at this time, assemblies will be "zoomed" into tutor classes, breaks staggered and all lunches eaten in class, not together in the canteen. Those students who access a school lunch will have the lunch brought to their tutor base. We will of course continue to support our student's social development and emotional understanding throughout this difficult time.

We have created three zones within the school. This enables us to stagger breaks and lunches with each zone going onto the yard at different times. Lunchtime will be split into three sessions one zone will be on the yard, one zone eating lunch and the final zone in their tutor class. After 20 minutes the zones will rotate so all students have had access to the yard for 20 minutes, time to eat lunch and time allocated within their tutor base. It would be appreciated if parents could provide students with a safety cup or sealable bottle to enable them to take drinks throughout the day. We do have some bottles but do not want students sharing cups or gathering at water fountains. The water fountains will be off and water available in all classes.



Students will remain in their tutor classes for the majority of the day with teaching staff coming to them to deliver their lessons; this reduces movement around the school and possible congestion on corridors. (It will be very helpful if students could bring something to read in case there is any delay with a teacher arriving). The exception to this is when students have a practical lesson such as science, ICT, Food or PE. Students will travel to those subject classes, observing safe distancing and if students wish wearing a masks (please be aware people with a diagnosis of Autism are exempt from wearing masks so it is an individual decision). When students are timetabled for PE, it would be beneficial for the students to arrive in school in a track suit/PE kit to avoid them gathering in changing rooms. Our current understanding is swimming will be available for our year 7 and year 8 students but this is subject to change. Travel to the swimming pool will follow safe distancing guidelines and if students wish to wear masks, they can.

Students will still be encouraged to self-regulate and access time out when they need it. Students requiring support outside of the classroom will be directed to safe spaces or outside of the building. If students willfully and persistently engage in behaviours, which put others at risk, they will in fact be putting their own place at the school at risk. They may be required to work from home for a period of reflection.

I hope that all students, who use school transport, are aware who their driver and escorts are. As always, we do not allocate places but will be here to try to answer any queries. School transport have their own risk assessment, which you should have access to.

Communication between the school and home remains a very important process. We will not be using home school diaries at the start of term to avoid cross contamination. We will use email, text or phone calls to keep you informed. Please feel free to do the same. It remains important we are aware of any situations which may have occurred which are likely to impact on your child's mood at school.

Return to school dates

Wednesday 2nd September

Thursday 3rd September

Friday 4th September

Monday 7th September

Staff return for INSET training

Staff INSET training

Sixthform and Year 7 start of term

All students fully return.

I am aware that originally we had planned for the whole school to return on Friday 4th of September. If this is a problem can you please contact the school.

Average day

- Staff will meet busses, taxis, cars and those on foot as they arrive.
- Temperatures taken and students directed to their tutor class through designated doors
- Hand sanitizer is available outside of the school entrances
- Students will remain in tutor class. Tech will be handed in for safekeeping including mobile phones.
- Teachers will come to student rooms to deliver lessons
- Staggered breaks will occur based on zones
- Each zone has designated toilets
- Hand washing will be encouraged throughout the day
- Lunches eaten in tutor classes
- Movement around the school will follow a one-way system where that is in place
- Students will be dismissed at the end of the day and asked to safe distance walk to their mode of transport.

May I take this opportunity to thank you for all the support you have given your children and the school over these past few months and for many of you, years. I hope things return to some level of normality soon and I can assure you we will be doing our level best to support each and every student as they return to school.

If you have, any questions please feel free to contact me via email tfay@presfieldschool.org and I will do my best to answer your questions.

Take care and stay safe

Yours sincerely

Tony Fay
(Head Teacher)