

Maghull High School



Return to School – September 2020

Sixth Form

Student Guide

Introduction

We are looking forward to welcoming you back to school in September for the start of the new school year – school has felt very empty without you all. Year 12 will return on Wednesday 2 September, followed by year 13 on Thursday 3 September. In this guidance booklet, we will set out important information about what we have in place that is different, so that you know what to expect and can be prepared for your first day back in school. It is important that you read this information before coming to school, as knowing what to expect will help you reintegrate more effectively into your school day routine. It would also be helpful to review the related documentation, which can be found on our website and on Firefly.

Travel to school

The government guidelines are that if at all possible, travel should be on foot, by bike or in a private car. If this is not possible, public transport may be used but social distancing should be adhered to. You are required to wear masks or face coverings on our school buses. These will need to be double bagged on arrival at school and must be stored hygienically in your bag for the remainder of the day. If you are using disposable face coverings, you will need one for the return journey, as these will also need to be double bagged before being safely disposed of on the school site. Please see the school bus information leaflet on our website for further guidance on how to travel safely on public transport. Government guidance on public transport can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-safer-travel-guidance-for-passengers>

Drop off and pick up by parents

Your parents must not enter the site or come into the building at any time without prior arrangement. If your parents are bringing you to school, we need them to drop you off on either Liverpool Road South or Old Racecourse Road and you should walk from there. This is to avoid the gathering of too many people on roads near to the school, which could hinder social distancing on entry to the site. You should come straight to school after being dropped off; good attendance and punctuality is an important aspect of your return to school. All sixth form students must enter the site through the sixth form gate where you will be met by members of staff. We do not want you to make detours to busy places, such as local shops or ice cream vans, on the way to, as social distancing will be difficult to adhere to there.

Organisation of the day

You will be following your normal timetable in September. If you are in year 12, your first day will include time with your tutor and an opportunity to meet with sixth form staff to secure option choices. If you are in year 13, you will also have the opportunity to spend time with your tutor on your first day back in, before starting lessons along with year twelve, period three day on that day. In order to minimise movement around the school, sixth form will be based largely in the sixth form centre. You will only move to access specialist teaching spaces as appropriate. To deliver the timetable, your teachers and other staff can operate across different classes and year groups but they will need to socially distance from yourselves and other staff as much as they can. To support social distancing, staff will be teaching from the front of the classroom and you will usually be seated in rows facing the front of the room. Your teacher will have a seating plan and will tell you where to sit in their lesson. Remember when you are moving around the site to be considerate and give others space. Assemblies will not be able to take place for now but will instead be delivered through your tutor groups.

Break and lunchtimes

The sixth form canteen will operate as normal from the start of term. Your canteen account will need to be topped up using ParentPay, as we have become cashless in the sixth form common room. When you use the toilet at break and lunchtime, you should spend as little time in the toilets as possible and remember to wash and dry your hands before leaving.

Curriculum and lessons

You will be accessing your full timetable from the start of the new term. Your teachers will be working hard to ensure that you re-establish good learning habits and build on the home learning you have done during lockdown. To support your transition back into school and your wellbeing, you will experience a Reconnect Curriculum either through your allocated Personal Development time. As teachers will be moving from room to room to teach in year group zones, it will be important that you take ownership of your books and resources and remember to bring them to school on the correct day. Your school bag must be large enough to carry the books and equipment needed for each day. As well as your lessons in school, the minimum expectation remains that you should complete the same number of hours' independent study in your own time, as you are timetabled in school. This study can take place during non-contact school time, after school in the study centre or at home.

For individual and frequently used equipment, such as pencils and pens, it is recommended that staff and students have their own items that are not shared so it will be important that you bring a pencil case with the necessary equipment in your school bag each day. It is also advisable to bring your own water bottle, tissues and sanitiser, although there is a hygiene station in each room if you don't have these items.

Extra-curricular opportunities

We aim to continue to provide a programme of extra-curricular activities in the autumn term. There may be some adaptations to our normal offer but providing hygiene and social distancing measures are adhered to, students from different year groups will be able to take part in the same activities. Government guidance states that singing, wind and brass playing should not take place in larger groups such as school choirs and ensembles, or school assemblies; peripatetic music lessons will still be available.

Hygiene

You will be required to wash your hands for twenty seconds at regular intervals throughout the day and will be reminded to do so. Disinfectant spray, tissues, lidded bins and hand sanitiser will be accessible in every room. We expect everyone to practice good respiratory hygiene at all times: **'Catch it – Kill it – Bin it'**.

We have introduced a rigorous timetable of cleaning across the whole site, with an emphasis on frequently touched surfaces and toilets, so you will see several cleaners working around the site every day all day. Toilet blocks do not need to be zoned, but they will be cleaned up to eight times a day. Students will be expected to visit the toilet at break and lunchtimes and will need to socially distance when in the toilet blocks; you should not remain in the toilet blocks any longer than you need to. When you are in classrooms and other areas of the school, you should avoid contact with surfaces.

Health information

If you or anyone in your household shows any signs of a new continuous cough, a high temperature, or a loss, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell, you **must not** attend school. If you fall ill while you are in school, we will call your parents or carers to collect you. If you are displaying any of the aforementioned coronavirus symptoms, you will be isolated in the O'Kane Building, supervised and supported by a senior member of staff until you are picked up to go home.

Supporting your emotional wellbeing

We appreciate that every student will have had a different experience during their time away from school and that some of you may be a little bit nervous about your return. Some of you may have been experiencing a variety of emotions in response to the coronavirus outbreak, such as anxiety, stress or low mood and it is important to understand that this is entirely to be expected.

Some of you may be worried that you might struggle to readjust to the routines and expectations of school or you may be concerned about the amount of work you managed to do whilst at home. With this in mind, we would like to reassure you that there is nothing to be worried about; our teaching and support staff are trained to support each and every one of you and have been planning how they will build on what you learned in the first half of the year to re-establish positive progress moving forward. Our Phoenix Centre will continue to support the wellbeing of all of you but will operate an appointments system. Remember that you can also access wellbeing support through Kooth, our recommended emotional wellbeing support platform. If you haven't already set up an account with Kooth, you can do so here: <https://www.kooth.com/>

Behaviour and Attitudes

Whilst we understand that children and young people may be at low risk of contracting coronavirus, you can still pick up the virus and transmit it to others who may be at higher risk of becoming seriously ill. It is important that you understand that decisions you make as an individual can affect the safety and wellbeing of others. With this in mind, it is essential that you adhere to our expectations while you are on the school site and on the way to and from school. Below is what we expect of you when you are on site:

1. Behave maturely and sensibly at all times
2. Enter the school site via sixth form gate
3. Walk on the left hand side of corridors
4. Observe two metre distancing whenever possible when walking around the building or site
5. Sit in designated seat within classroom and if you need to leave, ask a member of staff
6. Queue as instructed by members of staff at lunchtime
7. Sanitise your hands as you enter and leave every room
8. Wash hands with soap and hot water throughout the day
9. Do not touch anyone else's belongings
10. Avoid unnecessarily touching doors or other hard surfaces
11. Catch all coughs and sneezes in a tissue or crook of your elbow

Any student failing to meet these expectations may be sanctioned.