

RE-OPENING OF RUGBY HIGH SCHOOL FROM JUNE 29TH 2020 FOR YEARS 10 AND 12

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS

Please also refer to the document issued to all parents by Mrs Grimes/Ms Dermott-Bond last week, the school risk assessment and map of the one-way system in operation in school. All documents can be found on the school website.

In planning for the return of our students, we have followed government guidelines carefully as the Health and Safety of our school community is paramount. We hope that the following information will answer many of the questions you may have about the partial return to school.

Travelling to School

The government is encouraging students to either cycle or walk to school to reduce the numbers on public transport. Where that is not possible and a student has to travel by bus, face masks must be worn. Some pupils in Year 12 will now be able to drive however; they should not be bringing other students with them, unless they are from the same household.

1) What will the routines be like for the start and end of the day?

Students in Year 10 should arrive at school between 8-30 and 9-00am, and students in Year 12 should arrive between 9-00 and 9-30am. All students should arrive via the street entrance from bus bay, students are to wait in bus shelter area and will be directed into school and to their classroom base by the SLT member on duty. They will enter the school building by the doors opposite the Art block. Students will be instructed to wash hands in the main set of toilets on the ground floor on their way to their classroom. A member of staff will be on duty to remind students. Students will follow a one-way route to the Acorn block and will enter through the normal entrance corridor and exit via fire doors. Throughout their time on school premises, we expect all students to adhere to the social distancing policies in place.

Please note that due to a strict limitation on the number of people on the site, parents will not be permitted in the school buildings. Where necessary any essential meetings will take place via Microsoft Teams at a pre-arranged time.

Students will only be permitted to be in the designated areas, at the designated times and not anywhere else on the Schools' site. Year 12 will not be allowed access to the Common Rooms and will not be allowed to leave the site at lunchtime.

2) How will you limit the number of students mixing with each other?

Students will be put in groups (bubbles) of no more than 9 students in Year 10 and not more than 14 in Year 12. They will stay in their bubble throughout the day both during lesson time and during breaks. Members of staff will be around to supervise the students to ensure that this happens.

3) What arrangements will be made to ensure social distancing?

We appreciate that maintaining social distancing on site will be challenging, but we will put special arrangements in place on the school site to ensure that students and pupils can move around safely at all times. For example, for queues in the canteen we will use tape on the floor at 2-metre intervals.

At the start of the day, staff will speak to students about the importance of social distancing. Any student that repeatedly and deliberately disobeys the rules will be sent home.

4) I have children in other year groups. Can they come into school with their siblings in the year groups for which you are opening?

Unfortunately, we can only accommodate Years 10 and 12 plus the children of key workers and those in vulnerable groups.

In the classroom

5) How will the school day be structured?

Please refer to Mrs Grimes/Ms Dermott- Bond's email regarding the structure of the day and the subjects the students will be taught.

The Government has asked Secondary schools to offer some 'face to face' support to supplement the remote education of Years 10 and 12, with the clear expectation that online education will continue to be the predominant form of education delivery for these year groups. Online lessons, therefore, will continue for the days that the student is not in school.

6) How many students will be in each class?

The students have been divided into groups (bubbles) of no more than 9 students to ensure that social distancing can be achieved in the classrooms. Once a group is set up, it will remain the same for the remainder of this term and cannot be changed. Unfortunately, this will inevitably mean that some students will not be in the same bubble as their friends but this cannot be avoided. Different staff will be required to support with the provision for different subjects. Such staff will be socially distanced, and we will also minimise the changes of teaching room. Year 12 bubbles are slightly bigger groups as larger rooms are being used to teach these students.

7) Will the students have their normal class teachers?

Due to personal circumstance, some staff are unable to return to the school site at this time. As a result, students may not necessarily be taught by their normal class teacher but they will be their designated teachers will be subject specialists.

There will also be some support staff who will supervise students during the school day such as at lunchtime and during break. At least one member of the pastoral team will be on hand to provide pastoral support.

8) What will the classroom arrangements be?

Students will be taught in a designated area of the school to minimise the distance they have to walk around the site. Groups will be allocated a specific classroom and desks will be 2 metres apart to ensure social distancing.

A student will be allocated a particular desk that they will use throughout the day. Tissues and antibacterial hand gel will be available in every classroom for students to use.

9) Will any communal spaces be shared by students?

The Government has said that mixing should be limited, and students should be socially distanced, keeping students 2 metres apart from each other wherever possible. However, there will be some shared use of building entrances, toilets/hand washing facilities and the canteen/hall. Each bubble will have an allocated area for use in the canteen/ hall.

10) Will students be disadvantaged if they don't come back to school?

We would encourage all students that are able to come back to school to do so however appropriate work will be set for those students that are unable to return so that they don't fall behind.

11) What will happen at break and lunchtime?

During break and lunchtime Year 10 students will eat their food in their bubbles in the canteen, spaced 2 metres apart. Year 12 students will eat in the hall in a similar way. To keep queuing for food to a minimum we would urge you to send your child to school with sufficient food and water for the day.

Please note that for Health and Safety reasons water dispensers will not be available and so your child will not be able to re-fill their water bottles in school.

12) What should students wear to school?

Students do not need to wear school uniform. They should come to school in suitable home clothing that will need to be clean on that day (The Government advises that all children's clothes should be washed after a day in school). Therefore, please send your child to school in clean, comfortable, casual clothes including suitable footwear. Cropped/strappy tops and shorts should not be worn.

13) What should students bring to school?

All students should bring a suitable device (which can be a mobile phone) with them to access online work, a pencil case and a folder with paper. Art portfolios and other books are not permitted. Students should not share resources.

Health and Safety

14) What arrangements will be in place to ensure that the school site is clean?

Throughout the day, regular contact points (e.g. door handles, light switches, taps and toilets) will be routinely cleaned. All spaces used by staff and students will be thoroughly cleaned at the end of the day.

15) How will the school promote hygiene routines?

Students will be required to wash their hands on arriving in school and before they leave the premises. Regular reminders of hygiene standards will be given. We would encourage you to remind your child about the importance of hand washing and staff will reinforce this.

16) Will staff/students need to wear face masks?

We will not be providing face masks for students. If you wish your child to wear one, they will need to manage the mask themselves. It is not a requirement for staff to wear face masks.

17) What happens if a student starts to display symptoms of Covid-19 or is otherwise unwell in school?

Please **DO NOT** send your child into school if they are unwell in any way. If they become unwell at school, they will be isolated in the gym and will need to be collected immediately.

18) What happens if there is a confirmed case of Covid-19 in the school?

Currently Government advice is that if a case is confirmed, the person with Covid-19 must self-isolate for 7 days. Their household members will need to self-isolate for 14 days.

All members of their bubble in school (both students and staff) will also need to self-isolate for 14 days, but their households will not need to unless the person self-isolating develops symptoms.

If you have any further queries, please email: rhsadmin@rugbyhighschool.co.uk with the title 'Re-opening of the School' as the subject.

Thank you
Yvette Grogan (Senior Assistant Headteacher) 21/06/20