

25th August 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: September Start for Year 8 Students

As per my letter of 14th July, please be reminded of the return to school schedule for Year 8 students:

There will be a staggered start in September for different year groups.

- The first day for Year 8 students is **Friday 4th September 2020**.
- On arrival at school, Year 8 students should go to the **Maths Department**.

Children will be in year group 'Pods' to minimise the number of daily contacts with others that each pupil has. Timings for arrival to school and departure will vary depending on the year that your child is in, these must be adhered to at all times to allow for social distancing between PODs and to avoid congestion.

- Year 8 students are to **arrive at 8.35am**.
- Their school day will **end at 2.50pm**.

Attendance from September

Other than in exceptional cases, or where a student's absence is otherwise authorised, it is the Department for Education's expectation that students attend as normal from September. It is important that you discuss any concerns on attendance with the school as soon as possible to avoid further escalation. For more information from the Department for Education on this, please [click here](#).

For information regarding quarantining following a return from a foreign trip, please [click here](#) for government guidance.

Information from Year 8 Progress Leader, Mr Roberts

- Year 8 tutor groups have not changed except that Mr Taylor's form is now being taken over by Mr Grocock.

8LEB	8SC1	8LUC	8CC	8LCR	8SDD	8TGR
M5	M2	M6	M3	M7	M1	M4

- Year 8 will be based in the maths department. They will access via the stairs at the far end of the science department. Only year 8 will use these stairs.
- Break and lunch time arrangements are staggered to minimise contact between year groups. Year 8 break will be 10.30 - 10.50 am. Lunchtime will be 12.50 - 13.20 pm. Year 8 area will be the Café and the courtyard area. Pupils will be able to purchase lunch from the café during their allocated lunch time slot. Please note, that this will be a 'grab and go' service.
- Year 8 will have the same teaching group for all their lessons and these will stay in the same maths classroom all day. Teachers for different subjects will come to the students and maintain social distancing.

General Information:

- For days when your child has PE, they will be expected to attend school in their PE kit as there will be no changing facilities open on site. Please [click here](#) for PE kit uniform as outlined on the school website. Details of PE days will be shared with your child in their first week back to school. Students will not need to bring their PE kit in on their first day.
- Please [click here](#) for the bus information on our website.

- We would like to limit the amount of cars on site so ask you to drop off your child outside the school gate (except for those who need to use the disabled bays).
- Unfortunately, lockers will not be available to students this year. Any queries of those who have already reserved a locker, please contact ILS Lockers directly at sales@ilsschools.co.uk.

Students should be ready and prepared to learn. They will be expected to:

- Wear full uniform. Our uniform supplier is [Karlsports](#), Unit 7, Trafalgar Road, Kettering NN16 8DB. Tel: 01536 601731. Please [click here](#) to see uniform detail on our website.
- Bring in their own equipment. They will need a pen, pencil, ruler and green pen and might also find the following items useful: eraser, sharpener, coloured pens/pencil, scientific calculator, glue stick, protractor, compass, dry wipe/white-board marker, highlighter and dictionary. Bringing their own items in this way minimises contact.
- Ensure they always have a reading book with them.
- Whilst water dispensers will be available during break and lunch times we would encourage students to have a suitable water bottle and bring in their own water where possible.

Behaviour Policy Addendum

Please note that in light of the changes introduced this September, there is a new Addendum to the school Behaviour Policy. It is **very important that all parents, students and staff read and understand this document and adhere to it**. The Addendum is sent alongside this letter, or you can [click here](#) to see it on our website.

Public Health England does not (based on current evidence) recommend the use of face coverings in schools. They are not required in schools as students are mixing in consistent groups and because misuse may inadvertently increase the risk of transmission. We will continue to follow this guidance for students.

To minimise risk further we have:

- Enhanced our cleaning practices (protective measures, such as regular cleaning and handwashing will, of course, continue)
- Staggered starts, finishes, breaks and lunches
- Cleaning stations in all rooms
- Minimal contact between year group Pods
- Clear induction for all students in September so that they are fully aware of the procedures we have in place to keep them safe
- Minimal visitors onto site (these will be authorised by the Principal).

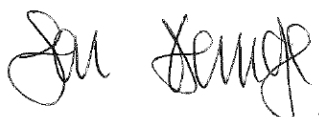
School will look very different in September when your child returns and we want to support them fully with their transition back into learning. It is imperative as we work in these unusual times that we all work together and ensure that our children are back and engaging in learning, but more importantly that all are safe whilst doing so.

We very much look forward to our full re-opening in September.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs Meena Gabbi
Principal



Mr Jon Berridge
Assistant Vice Principal



Mr Jon Roberts
Year 8 Progress Leader