



RAWMARSH COMMUNITY SCHOOL

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HEADTEACHER: Mr M Turton

September 2021 Reopening

Dear parents/carers,

We are really looking forward to welcoming all students back into the school from Thursday 2nd September 2021. As such, we wanted to give you some more information to keep you informed of what to expect and the updated requirements during the school day.

As a school, we are all really proud of how students and staff have continued to demonstrate resilience, cooperation and compassion throughout the restrictions. We know that our students will be looking forward to returning to some normality, including being able to interact more freely as we did prior to the pandemic 18 months ago.

The government has advised that we are able to remove the vast majority of restrictions that we still had in place in July, details of which you will find below. Please be assured we will continue to prioritise the health and well-being of our full school community; we will react and respond quickly and efficiently should the need to adapt our plans and risk assessments arise.

Returning to School

When students return, all protocols that we had in operation regarding bubbles, separate entrances, exits and social areas, including staggered timings of the day will cease.

All timings of the school day will revert to:

8:45 – 9:00	Form Tutor Time
9:00 – 10:20	Period 1
10:20 – 11:40	Period 2
11:40 – 12:10	Break
12:10 - 13:25	Period 3
13:25 – 13:55	Lunch
13:55 – 15:10	Period 4

On the first day, students should go straight to their form rooms where they will be issued with their new timetables. Students will be sent an email to remind them of their form room at the start of next week. Students should be in full uniform with tie and appropriate footwear.

Lunch / Break Arrangements

Food will be available in the canteen during both breaks and, as a reminder, the canteen is also open for breakfast from 8:00 am. Students will be able to access water fountains in school.

Ventilation and Hygiene measures

We will continue to ventilate all areas to increase airflow in and around the school. This will include leaving doors and windows open where it is safe and practical to do so, whilst ensuring that a comfortable temperature for learning is maintained.

We will continue to provide enhanced cleaning throughout the day, including toilet facilities and in classrooms, with a focus on frequently touched surfaces. Students will be actively encouraged to wash their hands and sanitise on a regular basis. Hand sanitiser will still be made readily available for students to use on arrival to school, between lessons, as well as before and after eating.

As in the Summer term, we no longer require students or staff to wear face coverings. However, we will support anyone wishing to wear one. Face coverings are no longer required on WPT transport, but please check with your service provider as to requirements on services buses, etc.

Enrichment activities

We are pleased to be able to offer a full programme of enrichment activities on our return in September. Form tutors will provide information on the activities available during tutor time.

All students can now utilise the changing rooms for P.E. and Sports Clubs, and all previous restrictions on practical lessons, including those in the Performing Arts faculty, have been lifted. Students therefore should come in full uniform every day, bringing their P.E. kit with them in a bag in preparation for practical lessons.

We will be restarting full year group assemblies from the first week back and are excited to be able to once again plan for celebration events.

NHS Test and Trace, COVID-19 testing and Attendance

As per our previous correspondence, we will be offering all students two on-site tests on their return to school. We intend to do this with minimal disruption to teaching and learning. Further details will be sent early next week. The plan is for all students to be back at school on Thursday 2nd September for an 8:45 am start.

Students should now only self-isolate if they have:

- one or more COVID-19 symptoms
- had a positive COVID-19 test or
- if they have been told to quarantine after travel abroad.

Any student who has one or more COVID-19 symptoms should self-isolate until they have taken a PCR test. If this test is negative they should return to school. Any student who receives a positive test result using a lateral flow test, should self-isolate whilst they take a PCR test. If PCR test is taken within 48 hours of the lateral flow test and the result is negative, they are then able to return to school.

Under the new government rules, those up to 18 years and 6 months of age no longer need to self-isolate if they are a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case.

In line with government guidance, the vast majority of contact tracing will now be carried out by NHS Test and Trace and not by the school.

Risk Assessment

A copy of our Risk Assessment for September 2021 will be available on the school website.

Thank you again for taking the time to read this update.

My staff and I are looking forward to welcoming all students back to school and working with you all over the academic year.

Have a safe and relaxing bank holiday weekend.

Kind regards

Matthew Turton

Headteacher

