



24 August 2020

Dear Parent

REOPENING OF THE REDHILL ACADEMY FOR ALL STAFF AND STUDENTS, SEPTEMBER 2020

As you will be aware, the latest Government guidance has called for schools to reopen for all students from September. We have planned for this return and I am writing to remind you of the details of how this will happen. From September, we will be in a position to welcome back all of our students safely although inevitably, a number of aspects of school life will have to be different. We anticipate these changes, whilst significant, will be temporary and we would hope to return to our usual operating procedures as soon as possible.

Here are the key changes for September:

- Arrival and leaving times will vary and students will have specific entry and exit points into the school. Tutor time will be at the start of the day for some students and at the end for others to allow us to stagger the numbers arriving and leaving.

Please note – in the first week only, everyone will arrive for an 8.45am start. Years 7, 9 and 11 will leave at 2.50pm; Years 8, 10, 12 and 13 will leave at 3.10pm.

- Some lessons will be longer than an hour to allow us to spread break and lunch times between the different year groups.

Morning tutor time 8.45 to 9.05	Period 1 1 hour 9.05 to 10.05am	Period 2 75 mins 10.05 to 11.20am	Period 3 1 hour 11.20 to 12.20pm	Period 4 90 mins 12.20 to 1.50pm	Period 5 1 hour 1.50 to 2.50pm	Afternoon tutor time 2.50 to 3.10pm
Years 7, 9 and 11	All Years (Years 8, 10, 12 and 13 arrive for this lesson)	All Years Includes a 15 mins break	All Years	All Years Includes a 30 mins lunch break	All Years (Years 7, 9, and 11 leave at the end of this lesson)	Years 8, 10, 12 and 13

- All students will be required to sanitise hands on arrival. This will be done regularly during the school day. Students are encouraged to bring their own hand sanitiser to school and it will also be available in school.
- Students will return to school for their first day in September on different days through the first week to help everyone settle in and to ensure all the new measures are understood and carried out. The return will be as follows:
 - **Wednesday 2nd September – Years 7, 11 & 13 to arrive for an 8.45am start. Lessons begin Period 3**
 - **Thursday 3rd September – Years 8 and 12 to arrive for an 8.45am start. Lessons begin Period 2**
 - **Friday 4th September – Years 9 and 10 to arrive for an 8.45am start. Lessons begin Period 2**



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- Students will use the following gates to enter and leave the school:
 - **Years 7, 8, 9 & 13 – Gate A: next to Redhill Stores**
 - **Years 10, 11, 12 - Gate B: the gate near the Leisure Centre**
- On arrival, Year 7 students will be helped to their classroom and will ensure a smooth transition into daily life at Redhill.
- Classrooms have been organised into 'Year group zones' to avoid the mixing of different Year groups. Students will work in whole year group bubbles and will not come into contact with students from other year groups at any time. It is allowed for students to move to different classrooms within their zone. If there are any BAME students who have concerns or students with an underlying medical condition please feel free to contact the school for further discussion.
- Students will have their normal timetable of lessons with their specialist teachers although they may not always have access to specialist rooms. There will be some changes to some practical lessons such as D&T, PE and Performing Arts subjects where regulations mean that some normal practical activities cannot take place for the time being. Further information will be shared with students in September. **Students do not need to bring PE kit to school for their first day back.** After this day, they will only need to bring training shoes for PE.
- There will be a programme of after school supported learning to help students recover from the lost learning time. Further details of these will be shared with you in September.
- Vertical tutor groups will be temporarily replaced. Students will be in a tutor group with students from the same year but still from their House. The tutor time activities will still be delivered and assemblies will be done as livestreamed events in classrooms for each House until further notice.
- With the exception of Years 7 and 11, **all students will need to bring a packed lunch.** Years 7 and 11 will be able to bring a packed lunch or have a meal in the New Dining Hall. There will be separate sittings for Years 7 and 11 with time to clean the New Dining Hall in between. Those students who bring a packed lunch will eat with others in their year. In the event of wet weather, students will eat in their classroom areas.
- Water fountains will remain turned off. **It is essential that all students bring their own water to school to drink during the day as we cannot allow students to leave rooms to get drinks.**
- All payments made to school must be done online using ParentPay. Please contact the school if this creates any problems.
- We have the same expectations as ever in relation to school uniform, general appearance and equipment. **Please ensure you have all the correct school uniform and equipment well in advance of the new term.** Further information is available on our website.





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- It is absolutely essential that all students appreciate the seriousness of the situation and the need to follow all of the rules at all times. Please discuss this with your child and the role they must play in supporting their school, their peers, the staff and their community by demonstrating outstanding behaviour. Any students who do not meet these expectations will be dealt with quickly in order to support the safe running of the school. It is also important to point out that all students are expected to return to school in September - attendance is compulsory for all as per government guidelines.
- We would encourage students to walk or cycle to school if possible. If students do use public transport we advise that parents check the latest government guidelines on using it and that students follow all expectations. It is also important that students go straight home at the end of the day.

We have thought really carefully about how we can best help our students return and despite the adjustments we have had to make, I am confident that we will be able to help everyone return successfully. The whole staff team will be focused on supporting all of our students every step of the way. From September, we will keep you regularly updated. We aim to return to 'normal' as soon as possible including a full programme of wider curricular opportunities and Inter House events. However, for now, we need to ensure we get students back into school safely and re-establish basic school routines.

Yours sincerely

Mr M Hardy
Headteacher

