

Dear Parents and Carers

Year 9

I hope this letter finds you well. We have been working hard to plan and prepare for reopening next week. A letter was placed on the website at the end of July outlining our detailed plans for reopening in line with government guidance. Please do review this along with the information in this letter.

Updated government guidance can be found by clicking on the following links:-

[Guidance for full opening: schools - GOV.UK](#)

[Guidance for parents and carers](#)

[School attendance: guidance for schools - GOV.UK](#)

Face masks

The Department for Education's latest guidance (26 August) has made it clear that they are not making the use of face coverings mandatory for schools, but will give schools discretion on their use in communal areas and moving around school. **We will be requiring all students to wear a face covering at break times and lunchtimes and when on corridors moving around the building.** Face coverings in lessons are not required as they do distract from teaching and learning.

As you know, we have worked extremely hard to mitigate against all possible risks and make our school as safe as possible for staff and students. The use of face coverings for our communal areas will enable us to support our other robust control measures we have in place. We will, of course, integrate the safe wearing, storing and disposal of our face coverings in our general expectations and induction procedures on the return to school.

We expect students to bring their own face coverings, hand sanitiser and tissues to school as part of their mandatory equipment. Face masks are now widely available and already in use in many parts of society. Guidance on how to make simple face coverings can be found on the department for education's website. Guidance on the storage of face coverings is also clear and that is that they should be stored in a plastic bag when not in use. As well as a face covering, therefore, students will also need to ensure that they have a plastic bag with them so that they can safely store their covering when it is not required. We also understand some pupils may not be able to wear face coverings as a result of certain medical conditions; please ensure this is communicated to your child's HoY by emailing enquiry@jws.bham.sch.uk before they return to school.

This is an evolving picture and we continue to do all we can to follow the relevant guidance from Public Health England and the government where appropriate.

Face coverings are required at all times on public transport for children over the age of 11.

Student travel and arrival at school

The bus company have advised that they will be operating the following services:-

Bus number	Morning arrival	Afternoon departure
838	Fairfax 8:25	Bus 1 JWS 15:22 Bus 2 JWS 15:35
838a	Fairfax 8:15	See above
839	Fairfax 8:17 Fairfax 8:20	Bus 1 JWS 15:15 Bus 2 JWS 15:20
815	JWS 8:27	JWS 15:22
77a	JWS 8:27	Fairfax 15:20
71s	n/a	No longer running use 71 public bus outside Pesto or X4 outside school entrance.

The school names simply indicate which school entrance the students are dropped off or picked up from. Students from either school can use all the services. Members of the public will no longer be able to use these services meaning that they will operate as school services only.

Students should arrive at school at the normal time 8:45 and wait on the school playground **there is no access to the school building from the front of school.** Waiting areas for each year group will be clearly signed. Entrance into the building will be slightly staggered to allow us to manage students effectively and to minimise potential mixing between different bubbles. Sixth form students can go directly to the sixth form centre on arrival.

End of School

To facilitate the smooth end to the school day, and to provide a distinct gap between different bubbles, leaving lessons, students will be dismissed from their lessons at staggered times and through different entrances. Students should leave the school site as quickly as possible or join the bus queues on school site in the usual places.

If parents are planning to meet students they should park away from the school site and agree a prearranged meeting place with their child. There is insufficient space at the front of the school for everyone to park and/or stand to greet their child as they leave.

Tutor Groups

Students will remain in their tutor groups as normal and form time will take place within the bubbles as described in my previous letter. There will therefore be form room changes which have been listed below.

Form	Form Tutor	Room
9ESk	E Skerrit (8SJ)	16
9HF	H Fletcher	41
9LBA	L Bardon/S Morrison	18
9MH	M Hawker/P Dunn	19
9RF	R Finnigan (8BR)	17
9SM	S Mamud	20
9WB	W Banks	42

Equipment

It will be essential for us to significantly restrict and limit the amount of shared resources and equipment. Accordingly, it is important for all students to have the following:

- Black pens (at least two)
- Green pen
- Pencil(s)
- Ruler
- Scientific calculator
- Knowledge Organiser
- Tissues
- Face covering & plastic bag
- Hand sanitiser

Uniform expectations

In accordance with government guidance, the uniform policy will remain in place in September and all students will be expected to fully respect the policy.

We thank you, in advance for your support and recognise that the vast majority of our students report to school every day looking smart and proud to wear the uniform. However, we also request that, if you feel there will be a specific barrier to meeting the uniform policy, or if you are facing particular hardship, you should contact your child's pastoral lead at the earliest opportunity to discuss the support we can provide.

It is important that students have an outdoor coat as outside shelter is very limited on the school site and the start of day arrangements mean that students will be waiting on the playground until they can enter the building at their allotted slot.

Adjustments for days on which students have timetabled PE

Please note: on the days which students have a timetabled PE lesson, they must come to school in their PE kit for the day to avoid any need to use the changing rooms. We would advise that students also bring their school jumper, blazer and/or PE fleece with them on these days. PE will not take place outside on days when the weather is poor.

Specific arrangements for the first week of term only

The schedule for the return of students in the first week of term is as follows. Please note Year 7 will be in school Wednesday, Thursday & Friday. Year 8 & 9 will be in school on Friday only. Year 10 & 11 will be in on Thursday & Friday. Year 12 & 13 will be in by appointment only on Wednesday, Thursday & Friday.

Date	Arrangements
Monday 31 August	Bank Holiday – school closed to all
Tuesday 1 September	Staff Training
Wednesday 2 September	Year 7 Students should report to the main visitor entrance for 8:45 and they will be directed to the hall. To support with this important transition, parents may escort their child to the door on the first day but must then directly leave site.

<p>Wednesday 2 September</p> <p>Year 7 only</p>	<p>At the end of this day students will be dismissed at 2:45. Parents must wait off the school premises. Please do not park in the layby as this is needed for the school buses and you will be blocked in.</p> <p>If Year 7 students are expected to catch school buses home parents should ensure that they know which bus they are catching and are able to get home.</p>
<p>Thursday 3 September</p> <p>Years 7, 10 & 11 only</p>	<p>Year 7 Wait on the playground until they are called to their rooms.</p> <p>Year 10 Wait on the playground until they are called to their rooms.</p> <p>Year 11 Students should wait on the playground until they are called to the hall.</p> <p>Year 12 Enrolment will take place by appointment only. Please check your individual appointment time and contact the sixth form if there is a problem.</p>
<p>Friday 4 September</p>	<p>Year 7 Wait on the playground until they are called to their rooms.</p> <p>Year 8 Wait on the playground until they are called to the hall.</p> <p>Year 9 Wait on the playground until they are called to their rooms.</p> <p>Year 10 Students wait on the playground until they are called to their rooms.</p> <p>Year 11 Students should wait on the playground until they are called to their rooms.</p> <p>Years 12 & 13 Please only attend school for your prearranged appointment time. If you do not yet have an appointment email enquiry@jws.bham.sch.uk for the attention of the sixth form team who will be in touch.</p>

Part of the planned reintegration programme for all students will include detailed guidance around the new routines and expectations as well as an opportunity to revisit our core values and expectations for teaching, learning and good student conduct.

Parent and Carer: Access to School Site.

In accordance with the measures above, we will need to carefully control visitors to site. Whilst we continue to highly value the parentship between home and school, parents or carers must only come into reception or onto school site with prior agreement or for a pre-arranged appointment.

Please also take some time to ensure we have the right contact details for your child. This can be done at enquiry@jws.bham.sch.uk.

In the meantime, if you have any queries that are not specifically addressed in this letter or in the information on the government website, please contact school through the usual channels.

Yours faithfully

Mrs T Peters
Headteacher