



COMMUNITY

Corona Virus Update: 3rd September 2020

YEAR 7 INDUCTION & START OF TERM ARRANGEMENTS

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing to keep you informed of our plans for **re-opening** in September and what your child's Start to Newsome High School will look like.

WEEK 1		WEEK 2	
Monday 7th Sept	INSET	Monday 14th Sept	Year 7 and Year 11
Tuesday 8th Sept	INSET	Tuesday 15th Sept	Year 7, 11, 10
Wednesday 9th Sept	Year 7 ONLY - INDUCTION	Wednesday 16th Sept	Year 7, 11, 10, 9
Thursday 10th Sept	Year 7 ONLY - INDUCTION	Thursday 17th Sept	ALL
Friday 11th Sept	Year 7 ONLY - INDUCTION	Friday 18th Sept	ALL

- *Students are to be in usual school uniform.*

As you're likely aware, the government has announced that schools should fully reopen from the start of the upcoming autumn term. They've decided this on the basis of:

- The prevalence of coronavirus decreasing
- The new NHS test and trace system being in place
- More clarity about the measures that need to be in place to create safe environments in schools
- Time out of school being detrimental to children's development
- The low risk to children of becoming severely ill from coronavirus

This means that we are planning to open to **all** of our **students** in **September**. It goes without saying that we are looking forward to welcoming everyone back, and we are working hard to make the school a **safe, familiar** and **enjoyable environment**.



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YEAR 7 INDUCTION DAYS

To ensure the safety of all and to adhere to current guidelines, students cannot be dropped off or collected at the front of school. The school drive is only in use for staff, essential deliveries and emergencies.

YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO USE THE SCHOOL DRIVE TO PICK UP OR DROP OFF YOUR CHILD.

The main drop off/collection points are:

- The end of the school drive - Students can walk down the path alongside the drive and into the school. Staff will be present to support during the Induction period.
- Edale - students can access the school site through the gateway. Please be mindful when dropping off/collecting from Edale as it is a busy road with limited parking space.

On entering the school site, Year 7 students will be guided to their allocated entrance (located next to the astro turf area at the side of the school building). This will be their year group entrance and exit for the foreseeable future whilst social distancing measures are in place. Unfortunately, parents WILL NOT be allowed on school site.

Once in school, students will again be shown their specific Team room and from there given all the information they require for the days ahead.

Hot and cold food will be available for Year 7 students but this will need to be pre ordered each morning for the first half term to support with health and safety guidelines.

Frequently asked questions:

- **What time do they start and finish for the induction days?**
Year 7's school day will start at **8:35am and will finish at 2:55pm** promptly. The school entrance will not open until 8:30am.
- **When will my child know which classes they are in?**
Year 7 students will find out their Team (Form) on arrival and their classes later that day (Wednesday). Year 7 and all other year groups will be in their own year group bubble until further notice.
- **How do I set up ParentPay?**
Our school operates a cashless system; ALL payments must go through ParentPay.
If you had a ParentPay account setup for primary school, you will receive an automated email with new account login details on your child's first day.
If you do not currently have a ParentPay account, please email office@newsomehigh.kirklees.sch.uk to receive a letter with account set-up details.
Your child can order food at school while you finalise the set-up of your account but you must ensure the account is topped-up and in credit by Monday 14th September. We cannot issue credits.
If you cannot top-up your account online, you can request a barcoded letter to use at a PayPoint by contacting us via email office@newsomehigh.kirklees.sch.uk
We do not offer cash payment or top-up at school.





- **What colour tie do I need to get and where can I get them?**

The tie for Year 7 is Maroon (Red). They can be purchased at Term Time Wear or through Parent Pay and collected from the school Finance office.

- **What should my child bring to school?**

Students must wear full school uniform. Face coverings are to be worn by students at all times (unless instructed otherwise and/or for specific health reasons). In order to reduce the possibility of transmission of the virus between school and home, students will only be allowed to bring a limited selection of items. ALL basic school equipment will be provided in a personalised pack and kept at school this means NO pencil cases etc. to be brought into school. Also a reminder that chewing gum is strictly forbidden.

Students will need:

- Labelled water bottle (This cannot be refilled at school or shared with others)
- Lunch/Snacks if not eating from the canteen
- A small bag to keep face covering in when not worn (while eating/outside)

If students need to carry anything else on their person, it must remain in their school bag at all times.

A reminder that no cash is to be brought into school. All payments must be made through ParentPay via Parent account or a barcoded letter can be requested from the finance team to use at a Paypoint (email: office@newsomehigh.kirklees.sch.uk).

SEND Information

Under normal circumstances, you and/or your child would have met with the School SENDCO Ms Hall to discuss joining Newsome High School in great detail, including what to expect and how we can support. If you require any support or have any questions in relation to SEND or supporting your child on their transition to Newsome High school, please contact Ms Hall on 01484 516712 or alternatively email her at ahall@newsomehigh.kirklees.sch.uk.

Rest assured that students will have plenty of time in the first week to meet with key staff. Getting to know you sessions will be in place for students to ensure we meet the needs of our students and remove any potential barriers to their learning.



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Attendance

- Attendance will be mandatory in September, as the government expects all students to attend school. The usual rules will apply, meaning we will be recording attendance and following up on any absences.
- If your children have been staying at home due to the current shielding guidance, the government paused this guidance on 1 August this means that all children should be able to return to school in September unless they have been issued with a NEW shielding letter. In the case of a new letter please get in touch.
- However, if you have received clinical or public health advice that your child should remain at home, please let us know and continue to follow that guidance. We'll be offering remote education to these students.

Symptomatic and Positive COVID-19 cases

- Please be reassured we are following a strict protocol in line with Public Health, NHS Test and Trace and Kirklees guidance
- Any child or adult displaying Coronavirus symptoms should not attend school. This also applies if anyone in the household is symptomatic. The main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are:
 - a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back
 - a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
 - a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal
- Call 119 or visit: www.nhs.uk/coronavirus to arrange a test for the person displaying symptoms
 - **Negative test result:** household stops isolating immediately your child can return to school
 - **Positive test result:** your household must continue to isolate.
Infected person = 10 days Everyone else = 14 days from the start of symptoms
- You will be contacted directly if a child/staff member in your child's 'bubble' tests positive for COVID-19. Individual identities will not be revealed
- In this event, all children in contact with that 'bubble' will be required to self-isolate for 14 days (their household members do NOT need to self-isolate unless they themselves develop symptoms)
- If your child develops Coronavirus symptoms while at school, you will be notified. Please ensure all contact details we hold are up to date. They will be supervised in isolation until they are collected. We will ask you to organise a Coronavirus test and they should remain in self-isolation until the results are received. If the test is positive, NHS test and trace will advise the school and close contacts of who should self-isolate





Safety measures

- When your children come into school, the following protective measures will be in place:
 - All children and adults will be asked to wear a face covering at all times when in communal areas which do not allow for social distancing
 - All year groups will remain in year group 'bubbles' throughout the day
 - Staggered start and end times to minimise congestion
 - Separate break and lunch areas for each year group
 - Separate toilet areas for each year group
 - Hand sanitiser at every entrance/exit and in classrooms to promote frequent hand washing
 - Ensuring good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach
 - Classroom layout to minimise movement and as per government guidance - all desks forward facing
 - Students to practise social distancing (1m+) and staff (2m) where possible
 - Increased cleaning
 - Basic equipment sets to be given to students to minimise sharing
 - Marked out one way and queuing systems where applicable
 - Dining arrangements will reflect the current health and safety measures - a hot meal option will be provided but choice may be limited
 - PPE guidelines will be adhered to in accordance with Public Health policies, e.g. administering First Aid
 - Chewing gum is strictly prohibited and sanctions may apply

Arriving at and leaving school

- Children should walk or cycle to school where possible
- Please be aware of the government guidance that **face coverings** are **compulsory** on public transport
- Pick up/Drop off - Strictly **no admission** to the school site (on foot or by vehicle) except by prior arrangement
- Parents/Carers should arrange to meet their child away from the school site
- Parents/Carers and Children should observe social distancing and not congregate - please ensure any children picking up siblings are aware of and follow the guidance issued by primary schools





Daily routine & structure of the day.

Key Stage 3

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
Zone	Tower Block Upper	Tower Block Lower	Science
Entry	HI Entrance	MFL Entrance	Student Entrance
Arrive	8:35	8:40	8:45
Team Time	8:40	8:45	8:50
Period 1	9:10	9:10	9:10
KS3 Break	10:05	10:10	10:10
Period 2	10:25	10:30	10:30
Period 3	11:25	11:30	11:30
KS3 Lunch	12:25	12:30	12:30
Period 4	12:55	13:00	13:00
Period 5	13:55	14:00	14:00
Exit	14:55	15:00	15:05
Toilets	Staff	Student Toilets	Canteen toilet/Boys' PE toilets
Social space	LRC/Bottom Court	Dining Hall/Quad (Front court)	Canteen/ Top Astro

Key Stage 4

	Year 10	Year 11
Zone	Maths	CAPE
Entry	PI	PFL
Arrive	8:50	8:30
Team Time	8:55	8:45
Period 1	9:10	9:10
Period 2	10:10	10:10
KS4 Break	11:05	11:10
Period 3	11:25	11:30
Period 4	12:25	12:30
KS4 Lunch	13:25	13:30
Period 5	13:55	14:00
Exit	14:55	Period 6 15:00-16:00
Toilets	PFL (lesson)	Student Toilets (cleaned between)
Social Space	Canteen/Top Court	Dining Hall/ Quad/bottom court

Break and Lunch Time Arrangements

- All year groups will have a separate indoor and outdoor space for social times (weather permitting)
- Seating will reflect social distancing measures
- A hot/cold lunch menu will be available every day but options will be limited
- A cashless system remains in effect. All student accounts should be topped up online via Parent Pay or a barcoded letter at a Paypoint.
- Due to COVID-19 health and safety restrictions we cannot accept cash top-up in school
- Any issues with payment or to request a letter please email office@newsomehigh.kirklees.sch.uk
- Students may continue to bring a packed lunch





Curriculum

Although there will need to be some changes to reflect the teaching time that was lost during the lockdown, we will still be doing our best to provide an ambitious, broad and balanced curriculum.

- All subject areas will have a transition curriculum in place at first to ensure any learning gaps from the KS2 National Curriculum are addressed. This will allow students to regain confidence as they adjust back to school life.
- All Year 7s will do a CAT4 numeracy and literacy assessment to support progress and identify any areas of need.
- All year groups will continue to study all their subjects
- Our lessons will continue to be delivered by subject specialists for all year groups
- The content of lessons may be modified to follow health and safety guidelines, e.g. group work may be limited, PE may not involve certain team sports etc.
- Marking and feedback will continue with some possible adjustments
- Our breakfast club will run but will be delivered directly to students in zones

Medical

Please urgently make us aware of any changes to your child's medical needs.

- Any pre-existing medical conditions which we may be aware of but you feel may increase your child's vulnerability to COVID-19 despite the changes outlined above should be raised so an additional risk assessment can be made
- Any relevant additional medical guidance from GPs or Consultants should be communicated
- Children will be required to wash their hands frequently with hand sanitiser, please make us aware if your child has any medical skin condition and/or allergy which may require an adapted regime
- Please ensure all information and consent booklets are returned to us no later than Tuesday 8th September 2020.





Pastoral support

- We are aware that the lockdown has been a difficult time for many of us, including our students and we have made a conscious effort to stay in touch as much as possible.
- Please let us know if you think your child might need extra support when returning to school, if they feel anxious about coming back or they're experiencing bereavement

Our current plans to support your children's wellbeing during this time are as follows:

- The relevant Behaviour for Learning Coordinator will be placed within your child's learning zone to support with any pastoral matters
- Time will be dedicated to awareness, discussions and information sharing with Team Leaders
- Our in house Counselor will be on hand to support with any form of anxiety, mental health or engagement difficulties
- Vulnerable students will still have the opportunity to access additional support and break out areas within their hub
- The SEND team will focus on supporting the wellbeing of students who have difficulty re-engaging in school
- Risk Assessments will be in place and reviewed regularly for all students with an EHCP
- School will continue to liaise with the relevant professionals and providers to ensure the right support is in place

We are extremely excited to welcome new Year 7 students next week and we will continue to keep in touch if there are any updates to our plans or if we need to make changes due to new or updated government advice.

Yours faithfully,

J Hinchliffe
Deputy Headteacher

S Mitchell
Assistant Headteacher

A Hall
SENDCO



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