

Brine Leas School

Headteacher's Newsletter to Y10

Parents and Carers



10th June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you and your families are safe and well. Following on from my last update earlier this week, I am writing to let you know the details for how school will resume for Year 10 students in the week beginning Monday 15th June 2020.

In line with government guidance, we are having a quarter of the year group in each day. This means that your child is able to attend school for one day per week.

Each session will start at 09:30 and will end at 14:30.

Students should be on site at 09:20 in preparation for the 09:30 start. It will not be possible to accommodate them any earlier than 09:20.

The day that has been allocated for your child will be sent by separate communication following this letter. It will not be possible to change the day that has been offered, nor will it be possible to change classrooms or groups once in school.

It is currently planned that this will continue for the next four weeks and will therefore end on Friday 10th July 2020. In the first session in school, we will discuss all the measures that we have put in place to ensure the safety of students and staff. The focus will also be on well-being and our behaviour expectations. Subsequent sessions will focus on English, Maths, Science as well as, wellbeing. You child will not be taught by their usual teachers and there will be the well-publicised in place. Whilst the classroom will not operate in the same way as it did, please be assured, we will endeavour to provide the best possible experience. This provision will replace a small part of the remote learning package, however, learning at home will continue, via Microsoft Teams.

School can provide a lunch, but there must be sufficient funds on Wise Pay to do so. Those in receipt of Free School Meals will continue to receive them. If there are any issue with lunches, then please contact the school as soon as is possible.

We expect students to wear school uniform, but the blazer will not be required. This means shoes, socks/tights, skirts/trousers, shirts, and a tie. Please do not worry if your child's hair is not compliant with our policy or if there are issues with ill-fitting uniform. We will make the necessary adjustments in school and if necessary, will be in touch to see if we can support.

Students must only use the pedestrian entrances closest to the main school gate. Everyone must follow national social distancing on the journey to and from school as well as when they are in school. On arrival at school, all students will be directed in between the main building and BL6 to a classroom to start their day. Cars will not be allowed on site. If you need to contact the school for any reason while your child is in school, then you will be able to do so by telephone or email.

It is currently unclear whether the Local Authority will provide transport via the usual bus routes, but I understand it is their intention to do so. We have been asked by the Local Authority to advise against using public transport to get to school. Please can you come to school either by walking,

cycling or car. If transport is an issue for you, please get in contact with school as soon as possible.

We expect all students to attend on their specified day. If your child is unable to attend, you should inform the school using the absence line as normal. If your child is unwell or symptomatic of COVID-19, they must not attend. Please note, that the government have made it clear that there will be no fines issued to parents who decide not to send their children to school during this period.

We are really looking forward to welcoming back an increased number of our students into school and restoring some form of 'normality' for us all. We understand that some of them (and you) might be feeling a little anxious about returning. That is to be expected and we will cover these feelings in their first session. However, I think we all agree that the longer our young people are out of school, the harder it will for them to return; they will benefit hugely from being in school again.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'David Cole'.

David Cole

Headteacher

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)

DOES MY CHILD HAVE TO COME TO SCHOOL?

It is not compulsory for students to attend school during this time and the intention is for this provision to support remote learning; we would encourage attendance if appropriate.

WILL STUDENTS' TEMPERATURES BE TAKEN ON ARRIVAL AT SCHOOL?

This is not currently recommended in the Government guidance.

WILL STAFF OR STUDENTS WEAR PPE?

It is not expected that either staff or students wear PPE at school. The only staff who would do so are those dispensing first aid or medical support. We will not prevent students and staff wearing face masks if they feel that this would make them more comfortable in school.

DOES THE SCHOOL HAVE ENOUGH HAND SANITISER?

We have invested in hand sanitiser stations around the school and will continue to bulk order these products for the foreseeable future. There are toilets and handwashing facilities available throughout the area of school used by the students.

HOW REGULARLY WILL THE SCHOOL BE CLEANED?

The areas of the school site in use are being deep cleaned on a daily basis. Each year group will be allocated their own set of rooms to use.

WILL PARENTS AND CARERS BE ALLOWED ON-SITE?

Parents and carers will be informed that they should only come to the school to collect a child who may be unwell or to pick up or drop off their child outside the school site. Cars will not be allowed onto the site. Students who arrive by bicycle will still be able to use the cycle sheds at the front of school.

WHAT IF MY CHILD IS ILL DURING THE SCHOOL DAY?

If your child is ill during the school day with any issue, you will be contacted and asked to collect him or her immediately. During this time, he or she will be supported by a first aid trained member of staff who will be wearing PPE.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF ONE OF MY CHILD'S CLASS OR A TEACHER HE OR SHE HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH IS DIAGNOSED WITH COVID-19?

You will be informed as soon as we are aware of a positive test. If this happens then all students and teachers who have been in contact with this person will be required to self-isolate for 14 days or until a test is returned negative.

The link below provides the Government guidance on this and many other aspects of school provision at this time:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings>

WHAT SHOULD MY CHILD BRING TO SCHOOL?

Please ensure that your child brings the following items into school:

- School uniform is to be worn
- Pencil Case – including pens, pencils, a ruler and calculator
- Water Bottle (filled) – drinking water fountains will not be available in school
- Any snacks for breaks between lessons
- If you wish to bring your own, please feel free to bring in any personal hygiene supplies that you may wish to use.

BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE (BYOD)

If your child has a device that they can use for learning (e.g. a laptop, iPad, Chromebook, etc.) that they can bring into school, please do. We are going to allow you access on these devices to the school's WiFi network, using your school log-in credentials.

If you are going to bring in a Windows laptop, it must have the following:

- Windows 10 installed
- It's antivirus and firewall software fully updated – Windows 10's own antivirus and firewall software is sufficient