

28th August 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Please see below for confirmation of the arrangements for the start of the school term next week.

Face masks

At Farlingaye, the use of face masks will be optional for students and staff at the start of term in September. It is clear from the views expressed by many parents, carers and staff members on this issue, that there is a wide spectrum of opinions relating to this matter within the school community. Therefore, it will not be possible to implement an approach of which all parents and carers will approve. However, taking into account the local situation, the layout of the school and the measures, which are being implemented to help staff and students to work and learn safely, the decision has been taken that this is the most appropriate approach for now. The position will be reviewed on a regular basis, and the school will respond to any changes in the published guidance. Those students who choose to wear a mask should ensure that they follow staff advice on how to do so, and that any damaged masks are disposed of safely. Face masks should be appropriate for school. Any face masks which are not appropriate for school will be confiscated and the student concerned will be issued with a disposable mask for the day.

Curriculum Delivery

All students will follow their full timetable and will be taught in specialist rooms where appropriate.

Start Dates and Times

The arrangements for the start dates and times are as follows:

Year 7 – Thursday 3rd September, 9.05 am.

Year 8 – Friday 4th September, 9.15 am.

Year 9 – Friday 4th September, 9.20 am.

Year 10 – Friday 4th September, 9.10 am.

Year 11 – Friday 4th September, 9.15 am.

Year 12 – Thursday 3rd September, 9.10 am.

Year 13 – Friday 4th September, 9.10 am.

Uniform

Please note that PE kit should be worn as uniform on those days when students have PE (though this will not apply on Thursday 3rd September for Year 7 students or Friday 4th September for students in other year groups). Female students may wear plain navy blue leggings or tracksuit trousers as part of their PE kit. If you are experiencing any issues regarding uniform, please contact the relevant Year Co-ordinator.

School transport

At this point we are not able to confirm departure times for all of the school buses. Those students who have to wait after the end of the adjusted school day will be supervised until their buses depart.

Students arriving on buses in the morning will go straight to their Year Team areas:

Year 7 – Humanities

Year 8 – Creative Arts/H14

Year 9 – Maths

Year 10 – Languages/LR2 & LR3

Year 11 – English/T3

Year 12 and Year 13 – Sixth Form Building/Science

Food

As noted in previous letters, we will be running a very limited food service. The main Dining room will have a 'grab and go' provision for students who have a lunch pass. There will be no service at break time. We would ask families to ensure that students who do not have a lunch pass have suitable packed lunches and water every day. The Sixth Form canteen will have a limited food service at break and lunch times.

Behaviour

It is important to note that next term we will, as always, expect high standards of behaviour from all students. From September, we will expect all students to comply with the additional measures put in place, to ensure the safe and smooth operation of the school. Please note that we have added an addendum to the school's Behaviour Policy. It is available [here](#), and provides more information on our expectations for September.

Pick Up and Drop Off

Please do not drive onto the school site, or stop on Ransom Road when dropping off or picking up students, as this creates significant issues with the flow of traffic, which is dangerous for our students who are exiting the site. Those families who have an SEN pass may drop their child on site. More information will be sent to those families soon.

Despite the obvious challenges of reopening the school under the current circumstances, we are excited about the prospect of seeing our students again and restarting our full curriculum delivery. We are confident that Farlingaye will still be a safe and stimulating place of learning, and we look forward to welcoming your child to the new school year.

Yours sincerely,



Andrew Sievewright

**Headteacher
Farlingaye High School**