

PARENT/CARER GUIDE TO SEPTEMBER START HEADLINES



As a school, we have been working through lockdown and the summer holiday to prepare for a full return to school in September. This document provides headlines of the key aspects you and your child(ren) need to know. We would appreciate it if you took the time to read it and sit down with your son or daughter to talk about it when you have done so.

The plans for reopening have been based on government guidance. The parents' version of this can be found here: www.gov.uk/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know

We have also distributed out parent/carer Frequently Asked Questions document that may answer any queries you may have.

Our plans to open fully are based on several guiding principles:

- a) The safety of the staff and students by adhering to a rigorous risk assessment, which follows all national guidelines, but also takes into account the unique setting of Barnwell School.
- b) Having clear procedures in place to keep everyone as safe as is reasonably possible in an education setting.
- c) Ensuring that hard-to-reach learners attend school and that the pandemic does not become a further barrier to learning.
- d) Making sure that the delivery of lessons in school is meaningful and of high educational value.

Start days

Year Group	Day
Year 7	Thursday 3 rd September
Year 8	Friday 4 th September
Year 9	Friday 4 th September
Year 10	Friday 4 th September
Year 11	Friday 4 th September
Year 12	Thursday 3 rd September
Year 13	Friday 4 th September

Timings of the school day - Students should not arrive at school before their stated time

	START	BREAK	LUNCH	END
7	8.35am Form period until 8.45am	9.45am – 10.00am	11.40am – 12.10pm	2.40pm Homework club available until 3.00pm
8	8.45am	10.10am – 10.25am	12.05pm – 12.35pm	2.50pm
9	8.55am	10.35am – 10.50am	12.30pm – 1.00pm	3.00pm
10	8.55am	10.30am – 10.50am	12.25pm – 1.00pm	2.40pm
11	8.35am	10.30am – 10.50am	12.25pm – 1.00pm	2.50pm Period 7 until 3.40pm
12/13	8.45am	10.30am – 10.50am	12.25pm – 1.00pm	2.50pm

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Attendance

The Government guidance regarding school attendance states that attendance will be mandatory from the beginning of the autumn term unless students are complying with clinical and/or public health advice i.e. if students are self-isolating and have had symptoms or a positive test result themselves; or because they are a close contact of someone who has coronavirus (COVID-19).

Curriculum

The plan is to ensure that, provided that our risk assessment shows that it is safe to do so, students will return to school on the following basis:

All students in all year groups will receive lessons as written in our original timetable and using their usual subject classrooms.

Years 7 and 8 will be in year group bubbles but will remain in the same teaching groups for all lessons.

Years 9 - 13 will be in year group bubbles but will have lessons as normal in their given sets and option groups.

Equipment

It is essential all students bring their own equipment due to the reduced ability to share or borrow resources.

Students must bring in their essential daily items including:

- A pencil case with black pens, a green pen, pencils, ruler, eraser and sharpener, protractor, pair of compasses
- Colouring pencils
- A scientific calculator
- Reading book

Students should bring their own wired headphones in for IT lessons when possible.

PE kit will be required for PE lessons but not on Thursday 3rd or Friday 4th September.

During the first term, Key Stage 3 students will be taking part in football and will require football boots. Key Stage 4 sports will be confirmed during their first PE lesson.

Classroom cleaning

All classrooms will be cleaned after there is a change of year group bubble. This process will be managed by the teachers, site staff and senior team.

Sanitising

There is an increased number of sanitising stations at the entrance to each block. Each classroom will have hand sanitisers and senior team will have mobile sanitising units. Students will be expected to sanitise their hands when entering and leaving a block and/or classroom. If students wish to bring their own sanitiser, this will be accepted but the frequency of sanitising needs to remain the same.

Practical lessons

Depending on the lesson, physical space and resources, some practical lessons may not take place initially. Individual faculties have risk assessed their schemes of learning and have planned suitable lessons to ensure sustained progression.

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Breakfast Club

Breakfast club will be available for all year groups. The breakfast club will be based in different areas for the different year group bubbles. This will be explained to students on their first day.

Face coverings

The advice on face coverings is changing daily and we are still working with Hertfordshire County Council, the Government and teaching unions to ensure we have the appropriate provision in place for all students and staff. Could we please ask that all students have their own face coverings should they need them.

Pastoral concerns

All students will have a pastoral link and will have Year group pastoral bases. This new system will be explained to students on their first day. Heads of college (KS3) and Heads of Year (KS4) will still be responsible for the pastoral welfare of their college/year group.

Social spaces

Each year group will have dedicated internal and external areas to socialise and eat their food. Year group bubbles will also have their own specific set of toilets to use throughout the day. All dedicated year group areas and toilets will be clearly marked, and the systems will be explained to students on their first day.

For Year 7 students starting at the school, numerous staff will be around the entrance gates to guide them in the right direction - please do not worry.

School Photos

Upper school photos will take place on Friday 4th September
Middle school photos will take place on Wednesday 9th September

One-way system

There has been a one-way system set up on both campuses to minimise the number of contacts between lessons. This new system will be explained to students on their first day in school.

School Uniform and personal hygiene

Years 7-11 will be returning to school in full school uniform.

- A College tie
- Navy blue sweater with school logo (Year 11)
- Navy blue blazer with School Logo (Years 7-10)
- Standard white shirt
- Black trousers – no 'skinny' or denim style
- Black pleated skirt – Pleated and knee length (pleats must be the full circumference of the skirt, either from the waistband down or with a short plain panel from the top of the skirt. There is no stipulation on the size or style of pleat)
- Black shoes – no sandals, trainers, boots or plimsolls
- Socks – plain, dark colours
- Tights-black or beige

Cardigans, non-logo jumpers and hooded tops are not permitted and are not to be worn as outdoor coats.

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PE kit will be required as usual and students will be required to change at school. Distancing and hygiene measures have been put in place in changing rooms.

Year 12-13 will be returning in accordance with our Dress Code and should attend in professional dress.

A thorough personal hygiene routine must also be applied by students in the morning before they come to school and when they return in the afternoon.

Government guidance no longer suggests washing uniform more frequently than you usually would.

Hair colour should be natural in colour with no excessive bleaching or bright colouring. No exaggerated cuts or styles. Shaved hair no shorter than a No.2 cut.

Nails and eye lashes should also be natural with no false/fake nails or nail polish and no false eyelashes or eyelash extensions.

No facial and visible body piercings allowed. Students will be expected to remove their piercings without exception. Clear retainers are not permitted for any facial piercings.

Toilet breaks and water bottle refilling

Toilet facilities will be cleaned regularly throughout the day, but toilet breaks will be limited to break and lunch times unless for medical reasons. Teachers will monitor the movement of students around the school during lesson time and change overs and ask that toilet breaks are not taken to maximise classroom time.

Climate for learning policy

The school climate for learning policy has been temporarily amended to take into consideration the current COVID-19 situation. The main changes relate directly to following measures and procedures put in place to stop the spread of COVID-19.

Whilst we are operating the staggered approach to school end times, detentions will be arranged in the following way:

- Years 7/8/10 will remain in their period 6 classroom for their detention and will be supervised by their period 6 teacher
- Years 9/11 will be escorted to the campus main hall by their period 6 teacher for their detention

Detentions will last for 20 minutes.

Parents accessing the school site

We ask that you do not come on to the school site without a prior arrangement. If you need to contact a member of staff, please email or phone our receptionists who will pass on the message. If necessary, we will meet with you by invitation. We must also ask you not to drop off forgotten books and equipment. Please check that your child has everything they need for their day in school before they leave the house.

Contingency Plan

In conjunction with our full opening plans, we will also be publishing a contingency plan within the first few weeks of term. This plan will ensure that high quality learning will continue should a local lockdown occur or should multiple positive tests be confirmed at the school causing Public Health England to advise us to close the school.