



FAQs for Parents for wider reopening of schools from September.

The safety and educational welfare of our staff and students is of paramount importance as we move to a full reopening of our schools in September. In order to ensure that we are mitigating the risk of the transmission of COVID-19 in school and the community we have put a number of control measures in place to support this. Below are a series of questions we have answered to reassure you as parents and carers that we are following guidelines to minimise risk to the lowest reasonably practicable level. Full guidance of school opening can be found here.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>

Full details of South Hunsley School opening can be found by accessing the school website. Please take the time to fully read each document and familiarise yourself with the entry and exit videos. If after reading and viewing all the information you have any questions please e-mail the school reception on enquiries@southhunsley.org.uk and we will endeavour to speak to you as soon as possible.

Prevention

To ensure the safety of our students and our staff we have a number of preventative measures in place to ensure that we are minimising the risk of transmission of COVID-19.

Firstly, we will be minimising contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring those who have COVID-19 symptoms, or have someone in their household who does, do not attend school. We are limiting visitors to school to those who are essential and only with a prior appointment.

There will be extensive promotion of good respiratory hygiene throughout the school as well as frequent opportunities for hand sanitation to reduce the transmission of the virus. All of our classrooms and communal areas are fitted with sanitising stations and staff and students will sanitise their hands upon entry and exit. We are increasing ventilation in our classrooms and communal areas, ensuring that windows are open and air conditioning is utilised as well as encouraging students to use our outdoor spaces during break and lunchtimes as much as they can.

There will be an extensive cleaning programme during the school day and at the end of the day to ensure any communal areas and frequently touched surfaces are cleaned and sanitised in accordance with guidance to maintain a covid-secure environment. Desks will be sanitised at the end of each lesson and any specialist shared equipment used in lessons will be thoroughly cleaned after use.

The school day has been altered to reduce the number of times students will move around the site. Lessons will be taught in three 100-minute blocks, staggered breaks and lunchtimes are incorporated within these blocks to reduce contact. In addition, staggered start and end times for year groups will ensure that different year groups have minimum contact and can maintain social distancing. One-way systems and reduced contact between year groups will be monitored and supervised throughout the day by staff. Within classrooms we have rearranged our seating, where practicable, to be forward facing with clearly designated teacher/student areas. We have carefully considered our curriculum so that we can deliver a broad range of subjects and topics and have added increased measures in some subject areas, in particular practical subjects, so that children can still take part in these lessons.

How parents/carers can support these measures:

- Be aware of Coronavirus (Covid-19) symptoms and what to do if your child or a member of your household has these symptoms.
(<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19>)
- Engage in the Test and Trace programme.
- Maintain social distancing and adhere to drop-off and pick-up protocols if you escort your child to school.
- If you need to speak to a member of school staff please ring or email the school in advance.
- We will explicitly model and remind students of good hand and respiratory hygiene during the school day, as well as having a no contact policy in place for our secondary students. Encourage your child to maintain these during their journey to and from school and as part of their daily routine.
- If your child travels to school using public transport and/or you wish for your child to wear to a face covering ensure that they are aware of good hygiene whilst wearing a face covering, including storage in a sealed plastic bag and safe disposal of disposable face coverings at home.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own>

- Ensure that your child wears the full school uniform and has appropriate outerwear. We are encouraging students to use outdoor areas as much as possible and one-way systems include outdoor areas so please ensure that your child wears a coat if the weather is cold. Please see full details on the school website (link identified at the start of the letter).
- Ensure that your child has basic school equipment for school each day.

Further details of each of these measures are highlighted in the questions below.

General Questions

1. What should I do if I think my child has COVID-19 symptoms?

If your child or a member of your household is displaying any of the following symptoms;

- fever,
- new continuous cough,
- loss or change in their normal sense of smell and / or taste then;

we would ask that they **do not come in to school. Please book a test** and ensure they **remain at home** until the outcome is known.

Below is a link the government website that will enable you to book a test and which explains self-isolation procedures:

- They will need to remain at home until they have either a negative result confirmed, or:
 - If a positive result is confirmed they must isolate for 10 days from the onset of symptoms.
 - Other members of their household (including any siblings) should self-isolate for 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing>

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do>

Please continue to use the school's absence line (01482 631208 (opt. 1 for Y7-11 / opt. 2 for sixth form)) should your child be absent from school for any reason, clearly stating the reason why.

If your child is absent due to illness, please be specific about their illness and if your child is displaying any of the Covid-19 symptoms, please state this when you contact the school as well as when your child started with symptoms. As a school, we are responsible for liaising with Public Health England for any confirmed cases within the school population, therefore communication between parents/carers and school is vital in reducing transmission.

2. What will happen if my child develops symptoms of COVID-19 during the school day?

If your child develops symptoms during the school day, they will be isolated from the school population in a medical room and will be required to be collected from school immediately. Suitable PPE will be worn by the member of staff while they await collection if a distance of 2m cannot be maintained.

3. Does the school have a risk assessment?

As part of the planning for a full return in the autumn term, it is a legal requirement that schools revisit and update their risk assessments to consider additional risks and control measures to enable a return to full capacity in September. These revised risk assessments are available on the [trust website](#) and have been developed to ensure control measures are sensible and proportionate to reduce any risk to the lowest reasonably practicable level.

Measures such as good respiratory and hand hygiene, increased cleaning throughout schools, decreased student movement around school and changes to the school timings to minimise contact between year groups in order to maintain our year group bubbles.

4. What PPE will my child have to wear?

If your child is using school transport to travel for their school journey, then they must wear a face covering in accordance with government guidelines. All face coverings should be stored in a sealed plastic bag within your child's school bag due to the risk of transmission to and from the face covering. This should be laundered daily if it is a re-usable face covering or disposed of, at home, if it is disposable.

During the school day it is not a requirement for students to wear face coverings in school. This is due to the communication barrier that could be detrimental to learning. However, we recognise that some parents/carers may wish for their child to wear a face covering whilst at school. This is permitted providing the face covering is a plain black, grey or blue, subtle cover with no logos, pictures or decorative patterns. Face coverings may be worn by students in accordance with the updated behaviour policy and should be stored in a sealable plastic bag when not wearing the covering. A link to the amended behaviour policy is on the website link including the uniform update.

5. Will staff be wearing PPE?

If a student becomes unwell with symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) whilst at school and needs direct personal care until they can return home, PPE will be worn by the member of staff (fluid-resistant surgical face mask, if 2 metres cannot be maintained) and if contact with the child is necessary, then disposable gloves, a disposable apron and a fluid-resistant surgical face mask will be worn. Face visors are available if there is a risk of contact with eyes (vomiting, spitting, sneezing or coughing in face).

Children whose care already routinely involves the use of PPE due to their intimate care needs will continue to receive their care in the same way.

Staff will have the option to wear a face covering whilst in school should they wish but this is solely at the discretion of the member of staff and will be worn in accordance with guidelines for wearing face coverings correctly.

6. Is attendance compulsory?

Returning to school is vital for children's education and for their wellbeing. Time out of school is detrimental for children's cognitive and academic development, particularly for disadvantaged children. Attendance is compulsory and we look forward to welcoming back all our students in September.

Pupils who are shielding or self-isolating

Shielding advice for adults and children was paused on 1st August 2020 which means that even the small number of pupils who were on the shielding patient list can return to school, as can those who have family members who have been shielding.

We recognise this could be an anxious time for parents/carers and so we encourage you to speak to us so that we can address any concerns and provide additional support where required. Please read [current advice on shielding](#).

Some pupils no longer required to shield but who generally remain under the care of a specialist health professional may need to discuss their care with their health professional before returning to school (usually at their next planned clinical appointment). You can find more advice from the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health at [COVID-19 - 'shielding' guidance for children and young people](#).

The School Day

1. How will the year group bubbles work?

Consistent groups reduce the risk of transmission by limiting the number of students and staff coming into contact with each other to only those within the group. It has been recognised that the use of smaller groups restricts the normal operation of schools and presents both educational and logistical challenges.

Maintaining consistent groups remains important and we will, in accordance with guidelines be looking to group students by year group in order for us to deliver a full range of curriculum subjects and ensure the well-being of our students. Students within year group bubbles will not be expected to observe social distancing, however members of staff will be maintaining, where possible, 2m social distancing from students and each other, or 1m+ where this is not possible.

2. What will happen when my child arrives at school?

To maintain year group bubbles there will be staggered arrival times for year groups.

Year	Start Time
7	08:40
8	08:45
9	08:50
10	08:40
11	08:45
12	08:50
13	08:50

On arrival, the following procedures must be adhered to in relation to holding of year groups and locations.

The full details for South Hunsley are on the website on the document titled **Entry and Exit and Transport**. Here you will find information regarding students arriving by bus, car, walking or cycling alongside where to enter and exit the site. This is different for each year group and so in order to assist the understanding we have produced some short videos which we urge you to watch and familiarise yourself with.

Please note that the school site will not be accessible to students before 08:30 and we ask that parent/carers do not drop children off before this time.

3. What will breaktime provision look like?

As with arrival times there will also be staggered breaktimes for our students to maintain our year group bubbles. Each year group will receive a 20-minute break period during period 1.

There will be a limited provision of snacks and drinks that students will have access to from the school canteen. Students will be permitted to bring in their own provisions for break time.

The timings for South Hunsley, showing staggered timings for different year groups, are on the document titled **South Hunsley Day Sept 2020** on the website link.

4. What will lunchtime provision look like?

Lunchtimes will also be staggered, and timings are shown in the model for each year group. Each year group will have a 40-minute lunch period in either The Space or Riding Hall area. Students will be encouraged to go outside, weather permitting, to minimise the risk of transmission. There will be two separate areas, both indoor and outdoor, to ensure that year group bubbles remain separated and allow adequate cleaning between sessions.

Students will have a grab bag option that will consist of either a cold or hot sandwich or salad pot and full details are on the website on the document titled **Catering Update**. Those

students in receipt of a free school meal will receive the school grab bag of their choice. Students will be permitted to bring a packed lunch to school if they prefer. The menu and grab bags will be updated and we are hopeful we can increase the food options in the second half term.

5. What will the end of the day look like?

Students will leave school at staggered times depending on their year group/mode of transport. We would encourage students to walk or cycle to and from school wherever possible to reduce the use of public transport.

For those that are walking or cycling home we would ask that they leave site immediately and make their way home following the timings of the day.

Students collected by car will need to follow the system in place by the school with regards to one-way systems and the timings of the day. We ask that parents and carers collecting their children remain in the car at all times to maintain social distancing measures.

Where students are unable to find alternative provision, buses will continue to be available. Students will need to ensure that they wear face coverings on buses to comply with government guidance on the use of public transport. Although specific seating on the buses is not allocated, we would advise students to sit with those in their own year group, where possible.

More information can be found in the **Entry & Exit and Transport** document on the school website.

6. Will there be a change to the uniform policy in September?

It is expected that school uniform will be worn in compliance with the school uniform policy, which can be viewed on the school website or using the link identified at the beginning of the letter. Uniforms will not be required to be cleaned more often than usual, nor do they need to be cleaned using methods that are different to usual.

Students will be taking part in risk-assessed PE lessons and activities. Your child will therefore need their usual PE kit. Please can we ask parents to ensure their child has the correct PE kit according to the website.

Year 11 students will not have a core PE lesson as part of their timetable, however if your child studies PE as one of their option subjects, they will be required to wear their usual PE kit to their lessons.

Changing rooms will be used by students and these have been fully risk assessed to ensure that year group bubbles do not mix and staff are able to maintain a suitable distance whilst ensuring student safety at all times.

7. What equipment will my child need to bring?

There will be a reduction in the equipment available in classrooms for students to avoid transmission of COVID-19. Sharing of basic equipment between students will not be permitted or available in lessons so it is important that your child has all the required equipment. These include pen, pencil, ruler, rubber, protractor, compass, glue stick, calculator, whiteboard pen and for Y11 the whiteboard they were issued with in June.

8. Will there be a change to the behaviour policy?

The school behaviour policy will be updated and reflect some changes that have been made to ensure the continued safety of our students and staff. The policy can be viewed in full on the link identified at the beginning of the letter. In our efforts to reduce the spread of COVID-19 new measures will reflect a no contact policy, adherence to the new hygiene and restrictions on movement throughout the school site.

9. My child has to use a school bus to get to school, how will they be kept safe?

If your child uses either school or public transport to travel to school, they will be required to wear a face covering. Disposable coverings should be thrown away after each use, so it is recommended that reusable cloth coverings are used. These will need to be placed in a sealed plastic bag during the day and then washed for reuse. This is in line with government guidance. If a student loses their mask during the school day and requires one for their journey home the school will be able to provide a one-use disposable mask.

10. Can my child walk to school with their siblings or friends?

We recognise that it is not always possible to keep year groups separate when travelling to and from school. We ask that parent/carers talk to their child about social distancing measures they should use when with students from other year groups who are not in their household and where possible maintaining a 1m+ distance. We ask that students arrive on time for their year group start of the day and not before, to allow for social distancing thus prevent groups of students congregating at the entrances to the school.

Curriculum

1. Will my child still receive a broad and balanced curriculum?

Yes, we have had to make some fundamental changes to the number of lessons that students will receive daily. We have moved from 25 periods of 60 minutes to 15 periods of 100 minutes per week. This will mean students have three, 100-minute periods a day. The timings of these can be seen in the outline of the school day. Whilst this means fewer lessons, the contact time overall is the same and the amount allocated to each subject has been designed to ensure that each subject has sufficient time to be able to deliver content in full.

By altering the timetable in this manner, we have managed to reduce the number of times students will have to transition between lessons and therefore reduce possible transmission between year groups.

Year 10 students will be able to continue to study GCSE Religious Studies and take their exam in summer 2021 as planned. There will be weekly lessons after school alongside GCSE Further Maths from 3:30pm until 4:30pm which students will be invited to sign up for in September.

2. How will the school ensure that my child has not missed any of their required learning for their previous year?

Our staff have been working over the summer to ensure that any missed content will be brought forward into their relevant key stage. We will be working hard to assess any gaps in student knowledge and using a range of strategies to close these and ensure no student is disadvantaged because of school closures.

Students in Y11 and Y13 will receive additional catch up tuition and support commencing after October half term. This will ensure all required content has been delivered and revised before the exam series in summer 2021. Additional information for this will follow in the autumn term.

Year 10 and Year 12 students who may also have been impacted by reduced teaching time for their exams will receive subsequent catch ups when they move into their final exam years.

3. What will happen if the school has to close due to COVID-19 cases rising or a local lockdown.

In the event that the school has to close due to COVID-19 cases then learning will revert back to online platforms in place during the summer term. Staff have been working to enhance these over the summer to ensure engaging and effective video learning for every year group in the event of a school closure.

Students will have access to laptops where these are not available in the home to ensure that there is no disruption to learning during this time.

4. How will this affect my child who has special education needs?

We will ensure provision for all students with special education needs is at the highest level. The teaching assistants with the department will have to change their practices in line with the policies. Please do get in touch with Miss Sweeney if you have any concerns at all.

5. Will there be additional support for students returning to school after lockdown?

It is imperative to us that all our students feel safe and secure at school. We understand that the past few months have been particularly challenging both educationally and

emotionally for our students and a source of great anxiety for some. We have a highly dedicated team delivering pastoral care to all our students and if you feel that your child requires any additional support please do not hesitate to contact the pastoral team at the school to discuss how we can further support your child both in and out of the classroom.

If you have any concerns, please use “pastoral survey” that will follow shortly to identify this to ourselves and we will follow up in due course.

6. How will this affect my co-curricular activities?

We will follow the guidance and as it is updated we will reintroduce different activities for example Music Lessons and PE clubs. We will be in touch when this is able to occur.