



13th July 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Reopening of Minsthorpe Community College – September 2020

We hope this letter finds you and your family well. As promised, we would like to update you regarding key changes we need to make in order to reopen the College safely to all year groups in September. We have followed Government guidance closely and have the safety of students, staff and the community as our first priority.

The changes we need to make are significant. We will send a letter in the post with full details in August, but we wanted to let you know of the key changes now, in order that families can plan ahead in terms of childcare and other practical arrangements.

Year Group ‘Bubbles’

In order to reduce the transmission of infection, students will be kept in year group ‘bubbles’ at all times. Contact between ‘bubbles’ will be limited throughout the day by making **significant changes to the College Day** and by introducing a **strict one-way system** around the College.

Each year group will have a **separate start and finish time** and they will enter the site via their own gate. To reduce movement around the site, we will change to three double lessons per day and have no separate P&A Time. We will only have **one snack break, which will also be at staggered times**, when students will stay in their **designated indoor dining area**.

Year Group	Start time	Gate	SB time	Dining Area	Finish time
Year 7	8.30am	English gate	11.30am	KS3 diner	2.10pm
Year 8	8.35am	P16 gate	11.30am	Sports Hall	2.15pm
Year 9	8.40am	English gate	12.20pm	KS3 diner	2.20pm
Year 10	8.45am	P16 gate	12.20pm	Carnegie	2.25pm
Year 11	8.50am	English gate	12.20pm	Sports Hall	Mon - 2.30pm, Tue - 3:30pm Wed - 3:30pm, Thur - 3:30pm Fri - 2:30pm
Post 16	9.00am or start of lesson	Main entrance	12.20pm	P16 café	2.30pm or end of lesson

Arriving and Leaving School

It is vital that students arrive at the exact time in the grid above (not early or late). Students are advised to avoid using public transport. There will be **no school bus service** until further notice. Students will need to walk or get a lift by car to and from school. They must not congregate in the community before or after school.

School Meals

Our school meal service will be limited so we strongly encourage students to **bring a packed lunch**. Students on free school meals and others unable to bring a packed lunch will need to pre-order a grab bag online. We will send you further details about this in August. There will be no breakfast service and no snack break 1, so students need to eat breakfast before they come to College. Students will be allowed to eat a snack and have a drink during the first double lesson when the teacher allows.

College Uniform

As you will be aware, we have made some changes to the College uniform to reduce transmission of infection and to allow you to wash clothes regularly. Students must not wear a tie. They will be given a badge to distinguish the year groups. Students may wear a plain black ‘v’ neck sweater/cardigan under their blazer or instead of their blazer to keep them warm.

The classroom windows and doors will be open for ventilation. Please ensure that any 'lockdown hairstyles' are appropriate for College in September!

Minsthorpe PE kit is needed. We will not be able to use the PE changing rooms, so students will come to College in their PE kit on the day(s) they are timetabled for PE. Please refer to our website for full details of the College uniform, including PE kit and our stockists for the branded skirt, if needed. <https://minsthorpe.cc/school-uniform/>

Good hand and respiratory hygiene

Students will be required to use **hand sanitiser and anti-bacterial wipes** regularly in classrooms to keep their hands clean and to clean surfaces and resources, such as computer keyboards. There can be **no sharing of equipment**, so students must bring a bag and their own equipment (a pen, a pencil, a ruler, a calculator, a planner and a reading book) every day. We will increase the cleaning of classrooms and dining areas during the day to reduce the transmission of infection.

Extra-Curricular and Offsite Learning Activities

It is with huge regret that we need to **suspend all extra-curricular activities** until further notice. This includes the use of the Library Learning Centre.

Start of Term Arrangements

As you will now appreciate, the students will need to adapt to many changes in September. In order to support each year group in adopting the new routines and also to ensure the routines run smoothly, **we will be welcoming each year group back into college at a separate time during the first week of term**. We will gradually increase the number of students on site each day.

Year 7	Arrival Time	Finish Time
Tuesday 8 th September	9.30am	2.10pm
Wednesday 9 th September	8.30am	2.10pm
Thursday 10 th September	8.30am	2.10pm

First Day

Please be assured that we will complete a full programme of induction with Year 7 students on their first day. This will include a tour of site, meeting some teachers and learning our all of our routines.

National Crisis

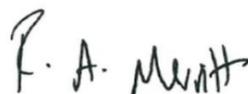
We thank you in anticipation of your support for the changes we need to make in order to allow all students to return to College safely. The period of school closure has been too long and we are all looking forward to Minsthorpe Community College being back up and running once more. We mention our vision and values repeatedly: Minsthorpe Community College – a place where everyone plays a part in strengthening our learning community through Motivation, Commitment and Care. **As always, we are looking to you as parents/carers to ensure your child is able to follow the new routines and expectations, which may not always be to their liking, in order that they can achieve well and be part of our learning community once again.**

In the meantime, please contact College via School Gateway or by email enquiries@minsthorpe.cc if you have any questions regarding the content of this letter. We wish you all a safe and enjoyable Summer Holiday.

Yours sincerely



Mr M Gilmore
Principal



Mrs R Merritt
Principal

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