



Ark John Keats Academy

20th July 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

The government has announced that all children will return to school in September. Although many of our students have done a brilliant job of learning from home, it is not the same as being in school. We have missed teaching them in person, and we're excited to welcome them back.

We have been working hard to make sure that returning to school is as safe as possible for your child. These include:

- Grouping students into year group "bubbles". Students will not mix with children from other year groups during the day
- Re-organising the site so that students stay within one zone for their lessons and break times
- Introducing extra cleaning during the day, particularly of things people touch (e.g. door handles)
- Introducing a one-way system
- Requiring students and staff to sanitise their hands-on arrival and after breaks

These measures will mean some changes to what your child is used to. We will use the first day of school to teach them what has changed and to explain why.

Below I have shared the most important information that you need to know in advance of September. Please do read it carefully and let us know if you have any questions. We will share the answers to any frequently asked questions with all parents.

Arriving and leaving school

All students apart from Y13 should come in via the secondary gate. They will then be directed to different entry points:

- Y7 and 10: dining hall
- Y9 and 11: assembly hall
- Y8 and 12: back of A block

Year 13 should enter school via the Astroturf gate onto Albany Park.

Travelling to school

Students should walk or cycle where possible. If students take public transport then they are legally required to wear a face mask from age 11 onwards.

Pupil groups

In KS3, pupils will be taught in the same group for all lessons, including tutor time. We will write to you in late August to let you know which group your child is in. In KS4, pupils will be taught in the same group for Maths, English, Science and French. They will remain in their option groups for options subjects. In KS5, pupils will have no change to either their tutor group or their options group.

Lunch

To reduce transmission through touch, from September any pupil in any year group who wishes to bring a packed lunch may do so. Your child will be issued a card which is linked to your ParentPay account. You must ensure you have money on your ParentPay account for the days you want your child to buy lunch, as there will not be an opportunity to pay for meals in school in person. Please note that pupils must only bring in healthy food: a sandwich or salad, fruit, yoghurt and cereal bar. The following items remain banned and will be confiscated and disposed of if brought in: crisps, chocolate, sweets, any drink apart from water. Importantly, please ensure no nuts are brought into school as we have pupils with very severe allergies.

Executive Principal: Jane Witheford
Secondary Headteacher: William Mackintosh
Primary Headteacher: Amy Baird

Ark John Keats Academy
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Uniform

The government recommend that schools return to their normal uniform policies for September. We will follow this recommendation. There is no requirement to wash uniform more often than normal.

Equipment

Students will not be able to share equipment. Please ensure your child comes with their full equipment as below:

2 black writing pens	1 pencil sharpener
1 blue pen	1 rubber
1 red writing pen	1 glue stick
1 green writing pen	1 15cm/30cm ruler
2 highlighter pens	1 Casio FX-85 ES or Casio FX-85 GT Calculator
1 compass	1 Oxford School Dictionary
1 sharpened pencil	Water bottle
1 protractor	A reading book at age appropriate level.

Enrichment

Government restrictions mean that we will have a more limited enrichment offer than normal. Enrichment will be taught in regular form groups for at least the Autumn term to prevent mixing.

Contact details

We must have accurate contact details that we can use to reach you during the day. This is so that if your child develops coronavirus symptoms we can arrange to send them home. If you have changed your mobile or work numbers, then please let us know.

Staying home

Your child must not attend school if they, or anyone else in your household, has developed:

- a new and continuous cough;
- a high temperature;
- a loss or change in their sense of smell or taste.

We will share full guidance on what to do if this happens, including how to book a coronavirus test, in September.

Thank you once again for your support with your child's education this year. We are extremely grateful. With your support we will be able to make the return to school in September a real success.

Yours sincerely,

Jo Facer
Principal

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