

FAQs From Parents Back To School Q&A Session On Tuesday 25 August 2020

Topic – COVID

Q: What will happen if the College does have a COVID case? What actions will be taken and how will parents be communicated with?

A: If we have a confirmed COVID case in the school be it a pupil or member of staff we will communicate this directly to all parents. We will also directly contact staff and parents of pupils who have been in close contact with this person; it is most likely they will have to be tested immediately before returning to school.

Q: What happens if our family needs to quarantine due to travel restrictions or self-isolation requirements?

A: Please **do not** come in to school if there is a suspected Covid-19 case in the household or break any quarantine rules. Please inform us via attendance@princethorpe.co.uk or call 01926 634260 and we will liaise with you directly about accessing home learning.

Topic - Catering

Q: How will cashless catering work and what are the costs?

A: It will work as previously. We will still use bio-metrics and the fingerprint unit will be cleaned between each customer. For new pupils, instructions on how parents top up their child's account has been sent out today.

Q: Is hot food going to be available from either tuck shop or refectory at all during the day?

A: Yes, there will be hot and cold pre-packed food available from four locations during the school day, each year group will be allocated their own inside and outside eating space and designated area to purchase food.

Q: Do you suggest packed lunches for the first two weeks? Will you be happy for the children to bring flasks with hot drinks/soups?

A: Pupils are welcome to bring a packed lunch, however there will be a good range of pre-packed hot and cold food available. We would not recommend bringing in flasks due to their fragility.

Q: Is lunch time staggered or is it just separated?

A: Half the school will have their lunch at 12.15pm and half at 1.05pm. This will be clearly indicated on the pupil's individual timetable.

Q: Will water fountains be available to refill water bottles?

A: Yes, they will be available.

Topic – Co-Curricular

Q: Will co-curricular activities start during the first week back?

A: After school co-curricular clubs will start on Tuesday 1 September so that we can offer a full range of activities to the pupils immediately. As pupils and staff become more familiar with the lunchtime organisation, we will open up the lunchtime co-curricular programme for the year group bubbles. Please see separate letter from Mr McCollin

Q: Will the Choir still operate given it is a cross-year group activity?

A: Choir, like Orchestra, will operate in separate rooms for each year group.

Q: What are the plans for DofE events in light of government advice?

A: The DofE programme is being looked at for all participating year groups and further advice will be issued shortly.

Q: Will pupils be distancing during games and not playing contact sports?

A: We are following closely the guidelines set out by each sport's National Governing Body while adapting to meet the needs of our own educational establishment. As the activities are opened up for schools and grassroots sports, we will adapt our training, conditioned games and competitive elements.

Q: Will sports fixtures and trips go ahead this term?

A: There will be no inter school fixtures this half term and following government guidelines all residential trips are cancelled for the time being. Year group day trips can go ahead if they meet risk assessment requirements.

Topic – Hygiene

Q: Could you give children an antibacterial wipe to enable them to clean the desk they are sitting at when arriving in each classroom?

A: We do not think this is necessary as we have an enhanced programme of cleaning in place. We are happy for pupils to bring in their own anti-bacterial wipes should they wish to.

Q: How frequently are communal/transit/washroom areas cleansed throughout the day?

A: Cleaning has been substantially enhanced across the campus. The number of extra times a room is cleaned will vary depending upon the nature and use of the room. Washrooms, for example will be cleaned many times during the day. Classrooms that have more than one year group using them will be cleaned more frequently than those which only have a single year group.

Q: What is the hand washing and drying provision?

A: Additional hand basins and hand sanitisers have been installed around the campus; hand sanitisers will also be available in all classrooms. Pupils will be advised how to use the hand gel safely. All gels used conform to the required British Standards.

Q: Do you have a preference for cloth or disposable masks?

A: No this is a personal choice, but the hygiene of the mask must be maintained. We will discuss this with pupils in school.

Q: Although children are in their year group bubble do they still have to social distance?

A: Yes, we will expect the children to keep a 1m plus distance from other pupils if possible whilst in their year group bubble and avoid all physical contact.

Topic – Pastoral and Attendance

Q: What happens if our family needs to quarantine due to travel restrictions or self-isolation requirements?

A: Please call the absence line as usual on 01926 634260 or email attendance@princethorpe.co.uk to notify us of any absence, if you have not done so already.

Q: If we deem it unsafe for my child to return what will the implications be?

Please contact Beth Sharpe, Deputy Head (Pastoral) directly if your child is not able to return to school in September

Q: How will you get the locker keys back so you can reallocate?

A: We will collect them in during the first week and re issue them as quick as we can.

Q: Will the new Year 7s get a little extra help navigating around the school with all the new rules etc

A: They will have had the chance to get their bearings during Induction Day and we will give them lots of support, don't worry.

Topic – Teaching and Learning

Q: Will practical lessons such as Science and Design and Technology be taking place?

A: Yes, our aim is to maintain our normal curriculum where we can, special risk assessments and measures are being taken in these subject areas.

Q: When should the timetables be available?

A: They will be available this weekend.

Will pupils still be able to take out books from the Library and Sixth Form Resource Centre?

Yes, we will be organising a click and delivery to tutor rooms service.

Topic – Transport

Q: How will pupils be seated on school bus transport?

A: Seats will be zoned on the buses based on year group and pupils must sit with other pupils in their year group zone to maintain their bubble. The Bus Briefing sent out to parents and in this edition of the Flagpole gives more information.

Q: How will you enforce the wearing of masks on buses?

A: The bus drivers will monitor and feedback, pupils will feedback and we can check the CCTV if necessary.

Q: I have quite a few bus tickets still, are we able to use these? Also, will we still be able to use buses on a flexi basis?

A: We are going contactless on the buses, so please return these unused tickets in a sealed envelope to the school shop or student hub FAO Barbara Bromwich, Finance Assistant **by Monday 21 September**, your fee account will be credited with a refund.

You will still be able to use the buses for ad hoc journeys, see the Bus Briefing and visit <https://princethorpe.vectare.co.uk/> to sign up and book journeys.

Q: Are you allowed to lift share with other families? What is the guidance on dropping off children from more than one year group in a car?

A: The government advice is that you are able to lift share with another household, but we would recommend the wearing of face masks.

Q: Do parents have to stay in their cars when collecting children?

A: Yes, we ask that parents stay in their vehicles when dropping off or collecting pupils from school.

Topic – Uniform

Q: Must all pupils be in full school uniform? Some schools have dropped the blazer for the time being to allow for laundering.

A; The advice from PHE and DFE is that school uniform must be worn.

Q: If children have an after-school sports activity - but no sports during the day, will they be starting the day in their sports kit?

A: No, pupils should only wear sports kit to school on the day they have Games in the afternoon. They do not need to wear a blazer with their sports kit, but can wear black base layers in cold weather.

For core PE lessons and clubs after school, pupils will be required to use the changing rooms, these will be sign posted for their year group. It is very important that they only use their year group changing room.

Further information is available in Mr Cassell's Flagpole article.

Q: When will the school shop be re-opening to buy additional PE kit?

A: You can order uniform now, email the uniform shop directly at uniform@princethorpe.co.uk and they will contact you.

Q: I have been struggling to find the standard girls' blouses online and we are in a quarantine so I can't get to the shops - any advice?

A: M&S and Trutex currently have good stocks.

Q: What exactly do pupils need to wear to school on days they have afternoon Games period 5 and 6?

A: Boys (Years 7 - 10) for the summer sports during Games - white polo shirt, black shorts, black ¼ zip Jumper (Year 10 can wear the senior black hoodie), black jogging bottoms, red splash proof Jacket and Black Skins if cold.

Girls (Years 7 - 10) for summer sports during Games - white polo shirt, black skort, black ¼ zip Jumper (Year 10 can wear the senior sports hoodie), black jogging bottoms, red splash proof jacket and black skins if cold. When wearing leggings, a skort **must** be worn over the top.

Senior boys can wear for Games - Senior tee, black shorts, black Princethorpe senior hoodie, black jogging bottoms, red splash proof Jacket and black skins if cold. Pupils who have been to South Africa are allowed to wear their SA tour kit.

Senior girls can wear for Games - Senior top, black skorts, black Princethorpe hoodie, black jogging bottoms, red splash proof jacket and black skins if cold. When wearing leggings, a skort **must** be worn over the top. Pupils who have been to South Africa are allowed to wear their SA tour kit.

Q: My daughter in Year 10 does not have tracksuit bottoms, what should she do?

A: The new senior tracksuit bottoms (Year 10 upwards) will be available to be purchased from the Uniform Shop within a week. These are unisex tapered tracksuit bottoms which were very popular with the South Africa 2019 tourists. For the first Wednesday of term, pupils are permitted to wear leggings and a skort when they arrive in the morning.

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For core PE lessons and clubs after school, pupils will be required to use the changing rooms, these will be sign posted for their year group. It is very important that they only use their year group changing room as directed by staff.

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