

Henley Bank High School Reopening Strategy

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"Details matter, it's worth waiting to get it right."

Steve Jobs

Dear parents, carers and students,

As you will be aware, the Government are preparing schools for phased reopening from Monday 1st June 2020 for selected year groups. For Henley Bank High School, the Government's strategy focuses on the return of Year 10 students. At this point, no further information has been given with respect to other year groups and I wanted to take this opportunity to share with you our strategy for reopening Henley Bank High School, when the Government advises us to do so.

This comprehensive document focuses on the return of Year 10 students and for parents and carers of children in other year groups, will serve as an insight into the measures being taken and strategies implemented to maximise the safety and wellbeing of our staff and students.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for completing our survey, the information from which has been invaluable in the support of our planning. I also hope that the information shared herein will serve to answer some of the questions and queries that you have shared with us.

Our strategy for school reopening is informed by the assumptions that:

- Year 10 will return as a `socially-distanced` year group for the remaining portion of this academic year
- Government guidance will add clarity to the return of other year groups in due course and until then, all students in years 7 to 9 are to continue learning from home until further notice and our strategy will be modified to support their return when we are given the message that it is safe to do so
- Year 11 continue to use the Post-16 Transition Curriculum to prepare for their next stages of education and training

Our strategy for a safe and effective reopening for Year 10 students, is informed by the most recent guidance released by the Department for Education and Public Health England. We have used this guidance in conjunction with our school's context to ensure that our strategy achieves three main objectives:

- 1. Minimise the threat of exposure to and transmission of COVID-19 among staff and students on site
- 2. Fulfil our national responsibility to decrease the rate of infection (R-rate)
- 3. Deliver high quality learning experiences for students in school and remotely

I want to take this opportunity to stress that, whilst absolutely every measure will be taken to minimise the threat of exposure to COVID-19 for individuals on site, we cannot guarantee that the risk will be eliminated.

Important notices:

It is essential that our Year 10 community become completely familiar with the details of this document and that parents and carers refer to this in conversation with their children repeatedly from now until the safe reopening of our school.

We are extremely confident in our reopening strategy, and to further facilitate our performance and your confidence, Monday 1st June will be used for staff training and will therefore only be open to children of `Key` and `Critical` Workers currently attending. I will also welcome a minimum number of colleagues onto the school site to complete final preparations.

Using the results generated from our recent survey, to ensure that all students have the opportunity to continue to make academic progress and that no student is disadvantaged during this phase of their education, we are offering two options for learning:

- 1. Continuation of high-quality remote learning from home
- 2. Learning in school via the remote platform being used currently at home (Year 10 only)

The remaining content of this letter details how we will fulfil our 3 objectives and will offer an in-depth description of actions taken and standards expected to maximise performance and safety.

1. Continuation of remote learning from home

The same high standards for engagement will be expected of Year 10 students and all other year groups working from the Google Classroom and other remote platforms. We have a team of teachers who will continue to support these students remotely. Parents and carers opting for the continuation of remote learning for their children, as before, must ensure that their children are supported in full to engage with tasks set by their teachers. Engagement will be tracked daily and parents and carers will be informed if any issues with engagement are identified.

2. Learning in school via the Remote Platform

For Year 10 students returning to school from Monday 1st June, we have devised the following strategy to fulfil our 3 objectives shared previously. Parents opting for their children to return to school, do so in full support of the details described herein. The achievement of our 3 objectives requires absolute alignment with every element of the strategy described.

2.1 The School Day:

To support the achievement of our objectives, we will:

- Apply an excess of hygiene measures throughout the day
- Shorten the week, with Year 10 students attending Monday to Thursday. On Friday, all students will work from home.
- Shorten the day to a 9am arrival and 1:30pm finish
- Divide the attending Year 10 student group into two groups, Groups 1 and 2 and operate a two-week rota
- 2-week rotation will continue until further notice
- Group 1 (student surnames beginning A to H) attending from week 1, that beginning the first day of reopening
- Group 2 (student surnames beginning I to Z), the following week
- Groups 1 and 2 will be sub-divided into 5 `Bubbles` of no more than 12 students
- Group 1 will consist of Bubbles A, B and C and will attend Week 1
- Group 2 will consist of Bubbles D and E and will attend Week 2
- Students will be assigned to Bubbles upon arrival
- Students will not be permitted to move between groups and will not be permitted entry to the school in the week not
 assigned to them

| Time | Action | Details | |
|-------------------|--|---|--|
| 9am to 9:20am | | Students will arrive at school and observe the 2m social distancing markers whilst waiting for instruction. | |
| | Roll Call | At 9:05am a whistle will mark the start of the day and students will queue at 2m intervals in their assigned bubbles pre-marked in the Sports Centre Carpark. No cars will be using the car park. | |
| | Prompt arrival at school through the front gate leading past the Sports | A register will be taken by their Bubble Lead and student`s temperatures taken before entering the school. Bubble Leads will wear required PPE for safety. | |
| | Centre. (Rear access and main front gates will remain closed until normal opening is re-established) | Students with a temperature exceeding 37.8°C will not be permitted entry to the school building and will be required to return home immediately and advised to observe the isolation guidance issued by the DfE and PHE. | |
| | | We recommend that parents check their children's temperatures before leaving for school to avoid potential confusion/frustration. | |
| | | Students will then transition to their Bubbles using the clearly marked pathways. | |
| 9:20am to 9:40am | Tutor Time Reading | Guided reading to support the development of literacy skills and comprehension | |
| 9:40am to 10:20am | Period 1 | As per individual student timetable | |
| 10:20am to 11am | Period 2 | | |
| 11am to 11:40am | Period 3 | | |
| 11:40am to 12pm | Break | No food or drink items are to be brought onto the school site and such items will be confiscated on sight. All food provided will be provided by the school and be sanitised prior to distribution. | |
| 12pm to 12:40pm | Period 4 | As per individual student timetable | |
| 12:40pm to 1:20pm | Period 5 | | |
| 1:20pm to 1:30pm | DEAR Time | An Inspector Calls – This will be provided | |
| 1:30pm | | Home time – Staggered dismissal | |
| 1:30pm onwards | Thorough clean of rooms and equipment | Our dedicated site team will ensure that all surfaces and equipment is sanitised ready for use the next day | |

2.2 Use of toilets

Students will not be permitted to use the toilets during lesson time.

When permitted to do so, students will enter the toilets 1 person at a time.

Each Bubble has their own toilet facilities allocated



2.3 Learning Bubbles: Moving and learning at social distance

To achieve all three of our objectives, students will be taught in self-contained `Learning Bubbles` of up to 12 students. Each bubble will be led by an assigned member of the Senior Leadership Team, be supported by one other staff member on a rota.

Each bubble will be located in a specific area of the school with access to all required amenities for comfort and will consist of an IT room that will conform strictly to social distancing requirements. Students will be allocated their own PC to work from in their IT room and each PC will be sanitised thoroughly at the end of each day. Students will be issued their individual timetables upon arrival and will continue to access the remote platform as they were from home previously.

Hand sanitising stations will be provided at the entrance to every bubble and all students and staff will be required to sanitise on entry to and exit from their bubble throughout the day.

All corridors permitted for use will operate a one-way system and all have been marked clearly with 2m distancing.

To further support our commitment to social distancing and to decrease physical interaction, students will remain in their bubbles throughout the day and will not be permitted to move freely through corridors at any time.

A separate recreation area allocated to each bubble, has clearly marked crosses that are more than 2m apart.

At break time, students will be provided with a variety of healthy snacks, fruit and sandwiches to choose from and will be provided with a bottle of water. Our water bottle and snack packaging will be sanitised and distributed by the SLT lead. The bubble's designated SLT lead will ensure that 2m social distancing is observed throughout the day.

Bubbles will not be given the opportunity to interact, and the individual groups of students will be kept separated throughout the day to further support the achievement of our 3 objectives.

Students will be assigned to a bubble upon arrival and issued their timetable. Students will be grouped to maximise their progress. *At no point will students be able to switch between bubbles*.

If infection is reported or suspected in a bubble, the individual bubble will be `shut down` and students, staff and families required to isolate as per guidance given by the Department for Educational and Public Health England.

2.4 Bubble Location, Leader, and Recreation:

| Bubble | Location | Lead | Recreation Space |
|--------|--------------------|--------------|------------------|
| А | English Department | Mr Dakin | English Green |
| В | Old PLC | Mrs Benfield | Treetops |
| С | ICT 1 | Ms Williams | Front of School |
| D | ICT 2 | Mr Nash | East Field |

2.5 Breaktimes:

The entire school site has been marked out with 2m distance markers and at breaktime, students will be required to observe social distancing at all times. A senior staff member of each bubble will ensure that distancing is observed at break times. Children repeatedly in breach of the social distancing requirement will be sent home immediately and Mr Foran will communicate with parents and carers a possible return date. Each bubble has an area dedicated to wet recreation during periods of poor weather.

2.6 Uniform:

Blazers will not be permitted to be worn as it is often not possible for them to be cleaned daily. Instead, students attending school will be expected to wear black trousers/tartan skirt, white shirt, Henley Bank High School tie and black formal shoes as per any other school day before the school closure. Parents and carers are urged to wash uniform items daily to support our efforts to maintain a hygienic and safe school environment.

2.7 Mobile Phones Use:

The use of mobile phones will not be permitted at any time on the school site during the school day as per our behaviour policy.

2.8 Equipment:

Henley Bank High School will provide all equipment to be used by students. Equipment will be assigned to students and sanitised regularly before and after use.



2.9 Behaviour:

Now, more than ever, we expect the behaviour of our students to be exemplary. Classrooms will be disruption-free, in line with our behaviour policy and in order to keep staff numbers to an absolute minimum, we will not be operating an APC. Instead, where behaviour fails to meet the standards expected, parents/carers will be called for the immediate collection of their children. Mr Foran will communicate potential return dates in individual cases. Students sent home, will be expected to re-engage with the remote learning platform with immediate effect upon their return home. Heads of Year will monitor the engagement with learning from that point onwards. Repeated breaches of poor behaviour may result in a student not being permitted entry back to school until social distancing measures have ceased and/or schools reopen normally.

2.10 Attendance and Absence:

Year 10 students returning to school to learn will be expected to do so according to our Attendance Policy. Parents and carers are required to follow the guidance with respect to absence through illness or other reasons. In cases of absence, as per our policy, the school must be contacted as soon as absence is being considered for safeguarding reasons.

2.11 1st Aid:

There will be a first aider on site at all times who will use the required PPE throughout any assessments. Due to low staff numbers, we will require prompt responses from parents and carers in cases where students need to be taken from site.

2.12 Visitor access to school site:

No parents, carers or other community members, including external services will, be permitted entry to the school site and will be required to remain outside the school gates at all times.

2.13 Years 7, 8, 9 and 11:

Until guidance is issued from the DfE and PHE, students in these year groups are to continue to access the high-quality remote learning resources from home. These year groups will continue to be supported closely by our Heads of Year, colleagues on the Help Desks and our admin team. Maintaining contact is crucial, more so now than ever, and my expectation of my colleagues, is that all students have contact from school in some form. If you have not been contacted by a staff member or you require additional support, please get in touch using the contacts below.

2.14 Contacts:

Safeguarding – Mr Foran <u>rforan@henleybankhighschool.co.uk</u>

Vulnerable students - Ms Williams rhwilliams@henleybankhighschool.co.uk

Year 6 Transition – Mrs Benfield <u>hbenfield@henleybankhighschool.co.uk</u>

Year 7 communication - Mr Powell tpowell@henleybankhighschool.co.uk

Year 8 and 9 communication – Mrs Middleton <u>tmiddleton@henleybankhighschool.co.uk</u>

Year 9 Options support - Mr Dakin gdakin@henleybankhighschool.co.uk

Year 10 communication – Teaching staff allocated to students

Year 11 communication – Mr Foran

Careers support – Mrs Camber rcamber@henleybankhighschool.co.uk

General enquiries - admin@henleybankhighschool.co.uk

2.15 Strategy Adjustments:

Adjustments to our reopening strategy, if and when required, will be made in response to guidance issues by the DfE and PHE. Our actions will always prioritise the safety and wellbeing of our staff, students and the wider public and will be communicated with all stakeholders with ample notice.

Whilst comprehensive, I hope that this information has proved useful in answering the many questions that you may have and also alleviate anxieties that will naturally exist at this time.

I want to thank you again for your continued support and appreciate fully, your patience, as we navigate Government guidance to add clarity and confidence in challenging times.

Kind regards,

Mr B Nash

