



Beamont Collegiate  
Academy

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17 July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

We have reached the end of a very challenging school year that presented us with circumstances we could never have foreseen. The decision to close schools in March disrupted the education for so many young people. However, over the last few months I have been incredibly proud of the way in which the whole BCA school community adapted to the situation. Teaching and learning from home came with significant challenges but the way the students have continued to work with their teachers and other staff via Google Classroom gives me great confidence that they will return to school in September in good shape to carry on with their education. As you know, following government guidance released in July schools are preparing to welcome back students in all year groups. Whilst we are looking forward to having all students back and believe it is absolutely the right thing to do it will be necessary for us to have a number of control measures in place to mitigate the risk of the spread of Covid-19. The control measures will cover:

- How we group students.
- Where in the school building students are taught.
- The time students arrive and depart school.
- Our provision for break times and lunchtimes.

This letter will outline much of the details parents/carers and students will need at this stage.

## The Start of Term

### Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September

On Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September **only Year 7 students** should attend school. This day will form part of their transition and induction to BCA allowing us to cover some of the information that would normally have been covered in the summer term as part of our normal arrangements for transition. **On this day Yr7 students should arrive at 9:30 and will be dismissed at 3:05pm.**

### Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September

On **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September all students** should attend school. The table below shows the arrival and departure times for each year group.



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Year Group	Arrival Time	Departure Time
7	8:30am	2:25pm
8	9:00am	2:30pm
9	9:30am	2:30pm
10	10:00am	2:35pm
11	10:30am	2:35pm

### Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September onwards.

From Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September onwards students will follow the timetable set out in the table below for arriving and departing school. As you can see one of the control measures we are putting in place is staggered arrival and departure to school.

Year Group	Arrival	Enter and exit the school building via:	Depart
7	Monday-Thursday: 8:30am Friday: 9:25am	Back yard	Monday-Thursday: 2:25pm Friday: 3:05pm
8	Monday-Thursday: 8:30am Friday: 9:25am	Student entrance	Monday-Thursday: 2:30pm Friday: 3:10pm
9	Monday-Thursday: 8:35am Friday: 9:25am	DT1 door	Monday-Thursday: 2:30pm Friday: 3:10pm
10	Monday-Thursday: 8:45am Friday: 9:30am	Back yard	Monday-Thursday: 2:55pm Friday: 3:15pm
11	Monday-Thursday: 8:45am Friday: 9:30am	Student entrance	Monday-Thursday: 2:55pm Friday: 3:15pm

As you can see from the table Monday -Thursday Years 10 and 11 will start and finish later than normal. **They will now have their 20 minute session with their form tutor that focuses on personal development at the end of the day from 2:35pm to 2:55pm.**

### Zones and Student Groupings

The government guidance for the re-opening of schools requires students to be grouped into "year group bubbles" so that the risk of infection and spread of Covid-19 is reduced. In order to do this each year group will be allocated a zone in the school in which they will receive all their teaching. They will also be allocated a specific area in the school for breaks and lunchtimes where they will only encounter



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students from their bubble (year group). Both of these measures are aimed at reducing movement around the school building and reducing the risk of students mixing with students from other year groups.

### **Classes in KS3 (Years 7-9).**

So that we can group students into a zone within the school they will be taught in their tutor groups for all lessons. They will be taken to their teaching rooms on their first day back in September.

### **Classes in KS4 (Years 10-11)**

Students who have begun or are beginning their GCSE courses will continue to be taught in ability sets.

### **Curriculum**

All students will continue to have their full curriculum entitlement. This means they will continue to study a broad and balanced curriculum that includes the subjects they have opted for at Key Stage 4. There will be some restrictions in place for some practical subjects such as art, engineering, drama and music. In these curriculum areas our Subject Leaders have re-sequenced the curriculum so that practical elements of their subjects can be covered later in the year when I hope restrictions are eased. Students will continue to have their full entitlement of PE lessons. However, we will not be using the changing facilities onsite. On the days that students have PE scheduled on their timetable they should come to school in their official BCA PE kit.

### **Lunch**

As we are required to keep students within their year group it is not possible for us to offer a normal lunch service. Therefore, for the first half-term we are asking all students to bring a packed lunch to school if possible. There will be an option to buy a packed lunch however the preferred scenario is for students to bring their own. For students entitled to free school meals we will provide a packed lunch.

At break times we will provide free toast for students.

### **Breakfast Club**

Unfortunately, we will not be able to run our breakfast club and offer free breakfast in our usual format. Again, this is to reduce the risk of students mixing with students from other year groups whilst on the academy site. However, at each of the entrances to the school building we will have free breakfast bars and fruit available for students to grab as they start the school day.

### **Uniform and equipment**

Students should attend school in September in full uniform. Our Vice Principal, Mr Reynolds will be writing to you in the next few days detailing the specific items permitted and not permitted as per our uniform policy.

In order for your child to be fully equipped for school in September, we will be providing basic equipment including pen, pencil and ruler however students are able to bring in their own equipment should they wish to. Students will be expected to have a rucksack or other suitable school bag. To reduce the need to share equipment and mitigate the risk of infection we are asking students to purchase a scientific calculator, which they will require for a number of subjects. We are recommending that students purchase a Casio FX calculator (any model) as this will be the one that they will be most



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familiar with and will be the one used in examinations. This calculator will be needed not only throughout the school day but also during home learning. These are available from supermarkets and online retailers for under £10. We recognise that Covid-19 has result in some economic hardship for some families. We are happy to support any families in relation to purchasing a calculator.

## Hygiene and Infection Control

As I have already mentioned above we have put careful consideration into how we work within the government's guidance in relation to how we will reduce risk whilst also continuing to offer the highest quality of education for our students. Below I have bullet pointed further measures we have put in place in relation to hygiene and infection control.

- Hand sanitisers will be stationed at all staff and student entrances to the school. All staff and students entering the school must sanitise their hands on arrival.
- Wall mounted hand sanitisers will be available throughout the school building.
- Every classroom in the school will be equipped with a hygiene kit including hand sanitiser. As a minimum, students must be instructed to sanitise their hands on arrival to period 1, their lesson that follows break and their lesson that follows lunch.
- Students will be grouped in year groups and only taught in a designated zone within the main school building with the exception of PE.
- At Key Stage 3 students will be taught in their tutor groups and will not move for lessons at all.
- At Key Stage 4 students will be taught in their sets so will be permitted to move between rooms in their designated zone only.
- The arrival and departure to school will staggered for students to reduce the potential increased contact of all students arriving for 8:30. Each year group has been designated an entrance and exit.
- Classroom furniture will be arranged so that class teachers and teaching assistants can remain two metres from students whilst teaching.
- Additional enhanced cleaning will take place throughout the school day with high frequency surfaces such as door handles being cleaned regularly.
- At lunchtimes and break times students will be allocated a designated area of the school where they will only come into contact with students from their year group.
- To reduce contact that could result from large numbers of students queuing all students have been encouraged to bring a packed lunch from September. We will provide a packed lunch for FSM students.

I fully appreciate that there is much to take in from this letter. However, I hope you understand the need for me to share such detailed information so that you can have confidence not only that we are taking every necessary step to keep all of the BCA school community safe and well but also to ensure we can get the students moving forward once again in their education.



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As I have said a number of times over the last few weeks as increasing numbers of students have started to return to school: *A school isn't a school until the students arrive.* So, it's with that thought and sense of hope that all us here are looking forward to September.

Once again, thank you for your ongoing support over the last few months. Have a great summer.

Yours faithfully



**Mr G Harris**  
**Principal**



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