



## Altrincham Grammar School for Boys

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Head Master: Mr G A Wright M.A. (Hons) FRSA

16<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing with an update on our plans for full re-opening in September. More explicit details will follow on August 25<sup>th</sup>.

### Start of Term

We will stagger the first day of term for each year group as follows. These include some changes from our previously published dates:

Tuesday 1st September:	Staff inset – no pupils in school
Wednesday 2nd September:	Staff inset – no pupils in school
Thursday 3rd September:	Year 7, Year 11 and Year 13 only
Friday 4th September:	Year 8, Year 9, Year 10, Year 12 only
Monday 7th September:	All pupils in

This will give time to show pupils the new systems and procedures in school.

### Prevention and minimal mixing

All children are expected to return in September. The government guidance has set out key principles for schools to offer a full educational experience while minimising any possible risks to pupils and staff.

There are several important preventative measures. Any pupil with symptoms or who has a household member with symptoms must stay at home. Hygiene procedures include frequent hand-washing respiratory hygiene measures (“Catch it, bin it, kill it”); and enhanced cleaning of the school site. Schools must minimise mixing and contact between groups of pupils. In secondary schools, pupils can mix within their year group, but mixing between different year groups must be minimised. Pupils should remain socially distanced where possible, and movement around the school site should be minimised.

### Year Group Bubbles

This proposal is for the first half term only. After this point the new teaching complex can be utilised and this will create more capacity.

### In brief:

Our plan is for KS3 to be in year group bubbles. In the main, classes in KS3 will be taught in forms. Teachers will therefore move to them. In KS4 and 5 students will stay as year group bubbles, zoned in specific areas of the school, but will move to a certain degree to receive teaching in specialist rooms e.g. Technology, Science. Year groups will be zoned in certain areas of the School. They will also have a defined outside space and play area for their year group, and particular slots in dining facilities at break and lunchtime.

### **How will we bubble year groups before and after school and at break and lunch?**

We intend to stagger the school start time for year groups. The details of this are yet to be decided. Each year group in Year 7-11 will have a designated playground for use before and after school and at break and lunch. Yr.12 and 13 will have separate designated study spaces so that there is not social mixing between year groups. Each year group will have access to a canteen/ food station for the sole use of the year group or during a set time frame when only their year group is in the space.

There will not be any assemblies, instead assemblies will be recorded/streamed and shown to students in form rooms.

***This 10-minute video from Mrs Weil (Assistant Head-Curriculum) describes in greater detail our plans for September:*** <https://www.loom.com/share/cca1bce78bc2435eabff77afebb7fc49>

### **Practical Activities**

Pupils will continue to study all subjects with their specialist teachers. Some practical activities will need to be modified in September for example in Games, P.E. and Music. Guidance in these areas is under constant review. We hope that circumstances will soon allow those areas to continue to provide the full range of opportunities which are important to so many students at AGSB.

### **Uniform and Equipment**

Pupils should wear full school uniform (or normal dress code for Sixth Formers), and may bring coats and bags to school as normal. Sharing of equipment between pupils in school will be minimised. It will be important that each pupil brings a full pencil case and calculator each day.

### **Collating Information**

We are surveying all AGSB families to collate information on health status, BAME status, method of travel to and from School, any future international travel plans. Before you complete the survey at the end of the letter, please do read the following updates:

### **Important sources of information. Hyper-links:**

#### Staying alert and Safe (Social Distancing)

Information found [Here](#).

#### Health Status –

Information on Clinically Vulnerable and Clinically Extremely Vulnerable families [here](#)

Information on Clinically Vulnerable and Clinically Extremely Vulnerable children [here](#)

#### International Travel -

Strict staff and student adherence to the 14-day self-isolation following travel from a country not listed on the travel corridor list [here](#).

#### Face coverings and face coverings -

Information can be found [here](#) and [here](#). We are very carefully considering if, and how, we can safely and effectively use face masks/coverings in the AGSB school setting. The government guidance is constantly evolving in this area. We will provide more information on this when we share the detailed 'return to school information' on 25<sup>th</sup> August.

Public Transport travel to and from school –

Information found [here](#). Face coverings are compulsory on public transport. N.B. If a face covering/mask is worn on the way to school. It must be disposed of (or stored in a sealed plastic bag/box for the day) before they enter the school site.

Risk assessment –

A new risk assessment will be completed and ratified on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> August by AGSB and HET leaders, unions and SLT. Shortly after this date, the ratified Risk Assessment will again be shared on the school website.

Symptoms –

Government website [here](#) and NHS website [here](#)

Guidance on isolation –

Information found [here](#).

Testing -

Government testing advice [here](#) and HNS testing [here](#)

BAME information –

Information found [here](#).

**Survey link -all families to complete this survey**

Once you have read all the appropriate information from the hyper-links provided, please complete this very important survey. Please complete this ([Survey link here](#)) as soon as possible, and certainly **no later than 15<sup>th</sup> August 2020.**

Yours faithfully



Mr G. A. Wright  
Head Master