

SPALDING GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Priory Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire PE11 2XH

T: 01775 765800

F: 01775 765801

W: www.spaldinggrammar.lincs.sch.uk

E: enquiries@spaldinggrammar.lincs.sch.uk

Headmaster: S M Wilkinson BSc

5 June 2020

Dear Parents and Students

I am writing to give details of how the School will partially reopen, to Years 10 and 12, from Monday 15 June. I set out the specifics for each Year group first, followed by some general information applicable to all. As I said in my earlier video letter to parents, this plan is designed only to support learning from home and is not a replacement; neither is it formal teaching in the usual sense. What we are providing is invaluable time where subject specialists can:

1. consolidate remote learning by checking on progress made;
2. identify any learning gaps, which teachers will then be able to support the students in closing;
3. re-engage those who have found remote learning difficult.

In making our preparations, we have had to bear in mind two restrictions imposed by Government:

1. only 25% of each Year group are allowed to be on site at any given time; and
2. there should be no 'split shifts' – for example, we cannot have 25% of Year 12 on a morning, and then have a different 25% on the same afternoon; once they are here, they should stay for the day.

Year 12

- Each day will be dedicated to two or three subjects, but each student will only attend one subject per day;
- Each student will attend only on specified days where their subjects are being taught;
- Students will be in their usual teaching groups, although some larger groups have been split to ensure social distancing measures can operate within classrooms;
- Students will attend for a full day, which will be split into two sessions: 9:30 – 12:00 and 12:30 – 3:00;
- Students will, therefore, receive two* days of intensive work in each of their subjects across the remaining weeks of the term – it is imperative that they (i) attend, and (ii) come prepared;
- Students will not be permitted to leave the site at lunchtime, and so should bring food/drink with them;
- Students will receive, to their school email account, an email which tells them which days they should attend, and for which subjects;
- Students should ensure that they check their school email account before setting off for school – if we have to cancel any session due to staff absence, we will email all affected students as soon as possible.

* Note: Further Maths and Engineering students will receive three days, to reflect those being double qualifications

Year 10

- Students have been placed in to one of 11 groups;
- Each group will have no more than 11 students;
- The groups have been decided based upon their subject combination;
- Two or three groups only will attend school at any given time;
- Each group will attend on one day each week; each group will attend on the same day each week;
- The school day will begin at 9am and will finish at 3:20pm. Where students are being dropped off in the morning, that should not be before 8:45am; at the end of the day, they should be picked up no later than 3.35pm;
- The day will be split into four 80-minute periods, three before lunch and one after, with a break between all sessions;
- Across a fortnightly cycle, therefore, students will have eight periods; they will be allocated 1 Maths, 1 English, 2 Science, 1 French/Spanish, and 1 each for their three remaining option subjects;
- Students will have a subject specialist for those sessions, although it may not be their usual class teacher;
- Each group will have a base room and a pre-determined seating plan – students will remain in that room and teachers will come to them;
- On any given day, students will remain part of the same group for the three morning sessions; on most days, students will have to be recast into different groups for the afternoon session (in order for all students to see a subject specialist in all their subjects);
- Where a group of students is different in an afternoon, that new group will go to a clean classroom – at no point will any student have to sit at a desk which has been used by another student earlier in the day;
- Each group will have its own area for recreational time, which will be fully supervised to police social distancing;

An Academy Grammar School

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Charter granted by Queen Elizabeth I in 1588

- On the first morning for each group of students, they will receive a briefing on the specifics of the timetable, as well as on appropriate behaviour for the circumstances;
- Students will receive, to their school email account, an email which tells them which group they are in, which day they should attend, and what their timetable will be (so that they can arrive on the first day prepared).

All students

- Students will be required to wear uniform (Year 10) or Business Dress (Year 12); however, summer uniform rules will apply and so students need not (and should not, in the interests of hygiene) wear blazers/jackets or ties;
- Students will only be able to access/leave the school site through the main (Priory Rd) pedestrian gate; entry to the school building will then only be through the Brown Door;
- A clearly-marked one-way system will be in operation in the corridors;
- Year 10 will be using one part of the site and Year 12 will be using another; additionally, their days will start and end at different times – the two cohorts will not meet;
- It is not our intention to offer a dining service for any student other than those who qualify for receipt of free school meals; parents should, therefore, ensure that students are provided with enough to eat and drink across the day. That includes water, where required, as we will not permit the students to use the school water fountains;
- Students must bring with them any resources that they need for the day from home – students must not be borrowing from one another during the course of the day;
- The use of WCs will be staggered and facilities will be monitored regularly for handwashing supplies;
- Hand washing and hand sanitising will be regularly promoted;
- If a student has work electronically and would benefit from a laptop or other device to allow them to access this while in school, they are encouraged, where possible, to bring their own. Please bring any device fully charged. Please note, no student will be disadvantaged if they cannot bring in such a device – we will have a small number of laptops that students will be able to use;
- Lockers will not be available, and so students must only bring with them the essentials for the day, all of which must be taken home again at the end of the day;
- In accordance with World Health Organisation guidance, face masks should not be worn.

I am confident that what we have in place is both meaningful (in that students will receive quality time with a subject specialist, which will be an invaluable support to the work they will need to continue to do remotely at home) and safe (in that risk from contagion has been minimised) and it is my expectation that all students should attend at their allotted times. If any parent considers themselves unable to send their child to school, I would be grateful if you could contact the School Office (via enquiries@spaldinggrammar.lincs.sch.uk) to inform us of that and to indicate the reason.

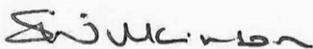
It is also very important that social distancing be rigorously observed in the interests of the safety of all, and their families. If a group of students arrive at school together, having not observed social distancing rules, then that group will not be allowed to intermix with other students – they will be isolated separately and parents will be contacted to come and pick them up and take them home again. We shall also respond strongly with students who deliberately flout social distancing rules during the day.

On the matter of transport to school, students are strongly advised to not use public transport. Where possible, students should be brought to school or should make their own way on foot, by bicycle or car. If a student has no alternative but to use a bus, then I ask parents to impress upon them the need to discipline themselves to maintain a 2m distance on that bus. Further to the Government announcement of yesterday, students using public transport are required to wear a face covering for the journey.

I also remind parents that students absolutely must not be sent to school if they, or anyone in their household, are showing symptoms of coronavirus. They must, in those circumstances, self-isolate, get tested and have a negative result before returning. Any student who shows symptoms while in school will be isolated and, again, parents will be contacted for immediate collection.

I look forward to seeing the students again, as we take our first steps back on what I hope is the road to normality.

Your sincerely



S M Wilkinson
Headmaster