

Covid-19 Phased Return March 2021 Addendum to Guidance for Families





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This addendum should be read in conjunction with our Covid-19 Guidance for Families September 2020.

All of the control measures outlined in the Guidance for Families September 2020 still apply. The measures outlined below are *additional* or *changed* control measures that we have been asked to implement by the Department for Education or due to changes on the school site. They are intended to provide enhanced safety and reassurance for our school community as we return to the school site from 8 March 2021 following the nationwide lockdown.

These new measures include:

- 1. Lateral flow tests for students
- 2. Increased wearing of face masks
- 3. Timings of the school day to maintain year group 'bubbles'
- 4. Lesson line-ups
- 5. Increased ventilation
- 6. Alteration to school bus drop-off and collection areas
- 7. Change to the external break time area

1. Lateral flow testing (LFT)

The government has recommended every student should have a negative test before they can return to school. Two more tests will then be required once they are back at school. Our process is as follows:

Stage 1

All students who have been granted consent will be tested in school at designated times on:

- Years 10-13: 8, 11 & 15 March
- Years 7-9: 9, 12 & 16 March

Following the first test, students in group A that record a negative test will return to school as normal on Tuesday 9 March. Students in group B that record a negative test will return to school as normal on Wednesday 10 March. Any students who record a positive result will be required to isolate for 10 days.

Process for Stage 2:

The two further tests will be carried out whilst in school on the dates specified above. Your child will receive a new card and set of barcodes at their first and second appointments, ready to register them again for their second and third testing days, again this will need to be 12 hours before they have their test. Students will be responsible for excusing themselves from lessons and arriving at the hall for their test at their designated time.

Process for Stage 3:

Students will be provided with home testing kits to test themselves at home twice a week. Results will need to be recorded. Further information on this will follow.

Result of Covid LFD Test

In the event that a positive result occurs, you will be contacted and your child will need to self-isolate for 10 days.

2. Increased wearing of face masks

As outlined in the Guidance for Families September 2020, students are required to wear a face mask when transitioning inside the school buildings and at all times in the café, except when they are eating. In addition, the DfE now requires students to wear face masks in classrooms throughout lessons where students are unable to socially distance. The DfE will review this requirement at Easter. All students will be expected to comply with this unless we have a written request for exemption from their family.

3. Timings of the school day

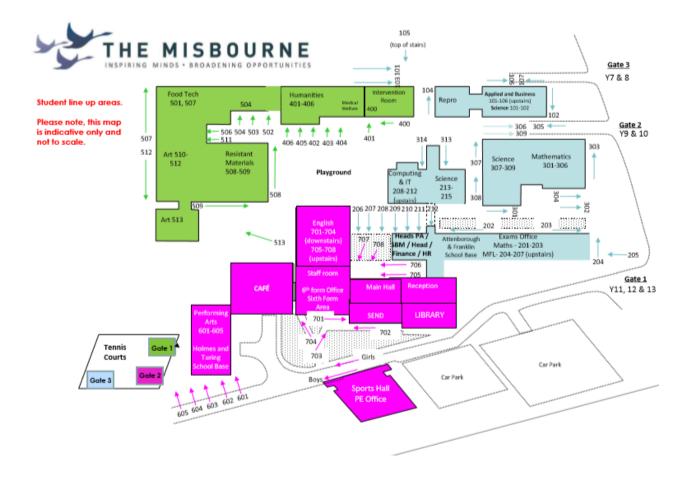
From 9 March 2020, when students begin to return to lessons on the school site, the timings of the day will be as follows for all students:

| Timings of the Day | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------|----------------|
| ACCURATE FROM 9TH MARCH 2021 | | | | | | | | |
| | Times of the day | Y7 | Y8 | Y9 | Y10 | Y11 | Y12 | Y13 |
| Periods | Gate Nos | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Tutor time, assembly | 08.40 - 09.05 | 08.40 - 09.05 | 08.40 - 09.05 | 08.40 - 09.05 | 08.40 - 09.05 | 08.40 - 09.05 | 08.40 - 09.05 | 08.40 - 09.05 |
| Movement | 09.05 - 09.10 | 09.05 - 09.10 | 09.05 - 09.10 | 09.05 - 09.10 | 09.05 - 09.10 | 09.05 - 09.10 | 09.05 - 09.10 | 09.05 - 09.10 |
| P1 Lesson | 09.10 - 10.10 | 09.10 - 10.10 | 09.10 - 10.10 | 09.10 - 10.10 | 09.10 - 10.10 | 09.10 - 10.10 | P1 Lesson | + Café Break |
| P2 Lesson | 10.10 - 10.40 | P2 Lesson | P2 Lesson | Break | P2 Lesson | P2 Lesson | Extended Café Break | |
| | 10.40 - 11.10 | Café Break | Break | P2 Lesson | P2 Lesson | P2 Lesson | P2 Lesson | P2 Lesson |
| | 11.10 - 11.40 | P2 Lesson | P2 Lesson | P2 Lesson | Break | Café Break | P2 Lesson | P2 Lesson |
| P3 Lesson | 11.40 - 12.40 | P3 Lesson | P3 + addition | nal café/space |
| P4 Lesson | 12.40 - 13.10 | P4 Lesson | P4 Lesson | Café Break | P4 Lesson | P4 Lesson | Break | |
| | 13.10 - 13.40 | Break | Café Break | P4 Lesson | P4 Lesson | P4 Lesson | P4 Lesson | P4 Lesson |
| | 13.40 - 14.10 | P4 Lesson | P4 Lesson | P4 Lesson | Café Break | Break | P4 Lesson | P4 Lesson |
| P5 Lesson | 14.10 - 15.05/10 | 14.10 - 15.10 | 14.10 - 15.05 | 14.10 - 15.10 | 14.10 - 15.05 | 14.10 - 15.10 | 14.10 - 15.05 | 14.10 - 15.05 |

Break times will be staggered as per the Autumn term to maintain year group 'bubbles'. Students must be quiet as they transition to and from the tennis courts and café for break as other year groups will still be in lessons.

4. Clear lesson line-ups

As they did in the Autumn term, students will be expected to line up outside their classrooms before lessons, in silence and wearing their face masks. To maintain year group bubbles, it is essential that students line up in the correct places. Some of these line-ups have changed since last term, particularly around the Maths block and Applied and Business. We will run through these new line-ups with students on their return, but it would be helpful if they can familiarise themselves with this map again before next week:



5. Increased ventilation

To ensure as much ventilation as possible throughout the school buildings, windows will be open in all rooms at all times. This is likely to make the rooms feel cooler than normal. We recommend that students wear additional layers **under** their school uniform to help to keep them warm. School coats may also be worn in classrooms if students feel particularly cold.

6. School bus drop-off/collection and cleanliness

School buses will be running as normal from Tuesday 9 March. However, due to the new coach road works, there are some changes to drop-off and boarding the buses, as follows:

Morning drop-off:

• Students will only be able to access the school via the gate on the tennis court. All students enter the school site via the tennis courts in the morning.

Afternoon pick-up:

- All students must wait on the tennis courts in their year group at the end of the school day before boarding their buses.
- No student may board a bus at the end of the day until a member of staff on the tennis courts instructs them to do so.

Please note that all students are in year group bubbles as per last term and must sit on the bus according to the existing seating plan, which will remain the same as in the Autumn term.

Bus cleanliness:

We received a number of complaints from our bus companies last term that students were boarding the buses at the end of the school day with muddy footwear / trousers and making the bus dirty for the next users, which is unacceptable. During the Spring term, there is no reason for any student to be walking on grass and mud at any time when entering or on the school site, except during PE lessons, when the field may be used. On days when your child has PE, please could you send them to school with a spare pair of shoes to wear home and a towel to put over the seat on the bus to help maintain the high standards of cleanliness on the buses.

7. External break times

Owing to the development of our new sports hall, outdoor break times will no longer take place on the coach road. Instead, students will have their outdoor break on the tennis courts. There will be a designated quiet area on the courts for students who prefer to sit quietly during break times.

Compliance

Our greatest safeguard against the spread of Covid-19 is ensuring compliance with these measures alongside the good practices that we are all now accustomed to – maintaining social distancing wherever possible and ensuring good hand hygiene. We appreciate your support in reminding your child of these measures and helping us all to play our part in keeping our community safe.