

Principal: Lesley Welsh



15 July 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

Full reopening in September

I hope this finds you and your family safe and well. As we approach the end of the summer term, I wanted to give an update on our current provision and guidance about our plans for September.

We remain pleased by the number of students who have engaged so well in online learning over the last term. Resources including the Google Drives and SAM Learning will remain available over the summer break and it would be hugely beneficial to your child to do some tasks and revision over the long seven week break in order to hit the ground running in September; however there will be no checklists or online support sessions from Friday.

Our keyworker provision has been incredibly successful and we are very proud of the engagement from these students over the last four months. The provision will close at 3pm on Friday and we hope that students enjoy their time away from school. It has been wonderful to see more students in school this week meeting with form tutors and we hope this has proved useful.

As you will be aware, the Government has announced that all students can return to school full time from September and we are looking forward to welcoming our students back. There are several measures in place to ensure the health and safety of the school community and I would ask you to be aware of the following information which is relevant to your child to help us adhere to all guidelines set.

Your child returns to school on **Wednesday 9 September** at **8.45am**. We have been asked by the Department for Education to minimise contact between different groups of individuals and as such, your child's year group will form a 'bubble'. Students need to avoid any contact with students in different year groups and as such, Year 11 will be based in a smaller number of classrooms than they might usually expect and teachers will move to the classrooms rather than students moving to teachers. Your child should enter school through the main school car park and use the Cayton block gates to get in to school, then immediately enter school via the door on the Cayton link corridor.

We encourage all students to walk or cycle to school; students who use a cycle or scooter should use the Pindar Road entrance so they can access the bikesheds but please remember that the school accepts no responsibility for student equipment. If using this entrance, please ensure that you maintain a 2m social distance from children in other year groups.

George Pindar School
Moor Lane, Eastfield,
Scarborough YO11 3LW
Tel: 01723 582194
Email: helo@gps.ht.academy

If you intend to transport your child to school, please ensure that you park away from the school site and do not open your own car door to minimise risks of transmission of the Coronavirus. Please remind your child to maintain a 2m social distance from children in other year groups en route to the designated Year 11 entrance.

If your child uses public transport to get to school, a face covering must be worn. Students must not touch the front of their face covering during use or when removing them. They must wash their hands immediately on arrival, dispose of temporary face coverings in a covered bin or place reusable face coverings in a plastic bag they can take home with them and then wash their hands again before heading to the classroom. Your child should try to sit with other members of Year 11 on public transport and avoid students from other year groups.

If your child uses NYCC-provided transport, face coverings need not be worn but efforts should be made to sit with other members of Year 11 and avoid students from other year groups.

From 10 September, your child should arrive at 8.35am as school does not open before this time and there is no breakfast club. Instead as part of a collaboration with the 'National School Breakfast Project – Covid response' students can collect a breakfast pack every fortnight to eat at home as part of their mission to ensure 'no child is too hungry to learn'. We hope many families take up this offer and you can confirm your order by email to news@gps.hlt.academy

On arrival at school your child must immediately sanitise using the sanitisers which are provided at every doorway – this should be done when entering and exiting every space. Rows in classrooms face the front and students must sit in the seat allocated by their teacher. A full range of subjects will be taught but students will not access their normal teaching rooms for all lessons.

In order to minimise transmission, students **must** bring their own equipment and wear their full school uniform. They will not be able to borrow items of equipment or uniform routinely and we ask all families to support us by ensuring that children are fully dressed and equipped for lessons. A reminder of our uniform requirements can be found here and we ask you to follow them closely: <http://georgepindarschool.org/uniform/> Please remember that only one pair of stud earrings can be worn (any other jewellery **must** be removed at home) and hair must be of a natural colour and style, with no haircuts of less than grade 3. Students need to bring the following equipment with them to school on a daily basis:

- At least two pens - four colour pens with blue, black, red and green are the most useful for work in school
- A pencil
- A ruler and a rubber
- A gluestick
- Some coloured pencils
- Some highlighters
- A scientific calculator



- The school planner (which will be distributed on the first day)
- A filled water bottle
- A snack for breaktime as there is no food for sale at this time
- PE kit on PE days – it will not be possible to borrow kit

Students will still use the electronic system to pay for their meals but will no longer be able to use the revaluer machine with their fingerprint to 'top up' their school accounts; therefore we encourage all families to use ParentPay to remotely add funds. If you require support with your ParentPay account, please contact hello@gps.hlt.academy and we will direct your query.

A PowerPoint has been placed on the school website which gives more details about the school day and break / lunchtime arrangements from September which ensure that students and staff can adhere to social distancing guidelines. I would ask that you read this carefully and discuss the content with your child. A copy of the Risk Assessment in place for the full reopening is also available on the website for your perusal.

During these unprecedented times it is more vital than ever that students abide by our behaviour expectations. Our Positive Discipline policy, which aims to catch students doing the 'right thing', will be in operation from September but additionally, the Coronavirus Code of Conduct is vitally important. A copy is attached to this letter. Any student who is deemed to be knowingly breaking the code of conduct should expect sanctions.

In order to minimise transmission and for the health and safety of the entire school community, if your child, or anyone in your family, begins to display Coronavirus symptoms (a high temperature, a new, continuous cough, or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste), please book a test at <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> It is vitally important that you inform school immediately if your child displays symptoms on 01723 582194 or via email to hello@gps.hlt.academy

We are really looking forward to seeing your child at school again; although there is a great deal of information here and many guidelines which we must follow, we cannot wait to welcome our students back to school. We hope that we can work together to help students achieve their very best and teachers have been working very hard during this period to ensure that planned lessons from September are of the highest possible quality and will allow the opportunity to close any gaps caused by the Coronavirus school closure. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact school, with email our preferred mode of communication at this point to hello@gps.hlt.academy

Our end of term newsletter should be with you on email very soon giving a full overview of our exploits throughout the last term. I would like to wish those members of staff who are leaving us well and hope that they are hugely successful in their next positions. On Friday we will bid a fond farewell to Mr Day, Miss Parker, Mr Abbott, Mr Shapley, Mr Grayshan and Mr Cairns. Miss Newton



will also be leaving us very early in September. I know you will join me in thanking these colleagues for their tireless support of your children and their commitment to #TeamPindar. I will update you in September regarding our new appointments for the academic year 2020 – 2021. We have made some changes to our Pastoral Team and from September Mr Gadd will be the Head of Year 11. You can contact him via email at m.gadd@gps.hlt.academy and I know he is looking forward to working with your child and you to achieve success in the 2021 exams. I would like to publicly thank Mr Thompson for his support of this year group and am sure he will miss these superb students.

The last term has been far from normal. When the Prime Minister announced in March that schools would be closing, I did not anticipate that we would not have the opportunity to close the school year in our usual fashion. I would like to thank all parents and carers for their support during these unprecedented times and the messages we have received in school which have lifted our spirits. I wish you and your families a safe and enjoyable summer break and look forward to seeing your child in September.

Yours sincerely

Lesley Welsh
Principal