

5th June 2020

Dear Year 10 and 12 Parents, Students and Carers

RE: Year 10 and 12 Returning to Furze Platt Senior School

Following my letters before and during half term I am writing to detail arrangements for the re-opening of FPSS for students in Years 10 and 12 in Term 6.

We will be open for some students in both Year Groups on Monday 15 June. However, as detailed below **all** students will not be returning on that date but as explained below in smaller groups in order to facilitate social distancing.

Before I go further, I want to acknowledge that for many students, parents and carers, as well as our staff, the act of returning is not an easy one. We have spent many weeks in isolation and the thought of returning to school may seem daunting. Coupled with contrasting views being presented in the press many of us, including myself, have thought deeply about a return to school.

The plans presented below represent much thought and action on behalf of many members of the FPSS community taking advice from national and regional government. For example, the government guidance can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preparing-for-the-wider-opening-of-schools-from-1-june/planning-guide-for-secondary-schools>

In order to make a return to school safe and productive there is much I need to explain. What follows is therefore the longest letter I have ever written as first I explain how students will return and share information. I appreciate your patience in taking the time to read it. It is all our responsibility to keep students, staff, families, our community and ourselves safe and healthy. We all need to play our part in ensuring this happens.

To help make what follows easier to follow we have made videos to accompany this letter, as well as a map:

Click here to see Andrew Morbey, our Assistant Headteacher, detail the timetable for Year 10.

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/Khsdu1zVH7sPDQcq8>

Click here to see Andrew Morbey detail the timetable for Year 12. <https://photos.app.goo.gl/Hx4Vku16gSDimLta8>

Click here to see me explain some of the safety information about your return.

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/oNmoFEEQu4JRXGcJ7>

Click here for the map.

<https://docs.google.com/a/furzeplatt.net/viewer?a=v&pid=sites&srcid=ZnVyemVwbGF0dC5jb218cGFyZW50cy1kb2N1bWVudHMtZm9yLXdjZWtseS11cGRhdGV8Z3g6MjM1OTAxOTIhYTljYjY1Ng>

When Will Students Return?

Both Year 10 and 12 will start to return from Monday 15 June. However, they will return in smaller groups than normal.

Our plan for **Year 12** remains very similar to that detailed in my letter prior to Half Term. Students will attend three times per week depending on the options they have chosen. Students will be split into two halves of the year group. One-half of the normal group will attend for the first hour, the other half will attend for the second hour. This means that no lesson will have more than 12 students and we will be able to maintain social distancing and learn safely. The lesson will be the same for both halves and help support the work set that week.

Plans for **Year 10** have changed since the government advice stated that only a quarter of the year group could be in school at any one time. Subsequently, rather than students attend every other day (achieved by splitting students in half) as in my letter before half term, students will now attend every fourth day predominantly in the morning (with the year group split into quarters).

Year 12 Timetable

Year 12 have been split into two groups: A and B.

Each day students will study one option block subject as follows:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Option A	Option B	Option C	Option E	Option D

Lessons will run as follows:

13.00-14.00 Group A

14.15-15.15 Group B

Students should only attend when their group has a lesson. There will be no lessons during the week commencing 6th July. Form tutors will be contacting students before the 15th to check they know which group they are in and to take them through the timetable. A letter will also be sent confirming the groups.

Year 10 Timetable

Year 10 have been split into 4 groups: A, B, C and D. Each group will be in school every 4 days starting with group A on June 15th. The days each group will be in school are as follows:

Monday 15th June	Tuesday 16th June	Wednesday 17th June	Thursday 18th June	Friday 19th June
Group A English and Maths	Group B English and Maths	Group C English and Maths	Group D English and Maths	Group A Science
Monday 22nd June	Tuesday 23rd June	Wednesday 24th June	Thursday 25th June	Friday 26th June
Group B Science	Group C Science	Group D Science	Group A Options A and B	Group B Options A and B
Monday 29th June	Tuesday 30th June	Wednesday 1st July	Thursday 2nd July	Friday 3rd July
Group C Options A and B	Group D Options A and B	Group A Options C and D	Group B Options C and D	Group C Options C and D
Monday 6th July	Tuesday 7th July	Wednesday 8th July	Thursday 9th July	Friday 10th July
Group D Options C and D	Group A English and Maths	Group B English and Maths	Group C English and Maths	Group D English and Maths
Monday 13th July	Tuesday 14th July	Wednesday 15th July	Thursday 16th July	Friday 17th July
Group A Science	Group B Science	Group C Science	Group D Science	No school based lessons

Each day lessons will start at 8.50 and will follow the following timetable:

8.50-9.50 Lesson 1

10.00-11.00 Lesson 2

11.30-12.30 Lesson 3 (Science days only)

Students timetables will be available on the Go 4 schools website and a summary of the schedule will also be available on FP Online. Form tutors will be contacting students before the 15th June to check they know which group they are in and to take them through the timetable. A letter will be sent confirming the groups.

Travel to and From Furze Platt Senior School

Access to FPSS will be via Furze Platt Road at the front of school ONLY. Access via the field is not permitted, as we need to keep this entrance free for Furze Platt Junior School.

While we cannot be responsible for how students travel to and from school, I would ask that parents and carers remind students to maintain social distancing when they travel. I am asked by the government to request that you minimise use of public transport so please can students walk or cycle if possible. There will be parking available for sixth form students but they should not be car sharing with students from other households. If a parent or carer is dropping off a child, please can the adult remain in the vehicle.

Movement Around School

When students arrive onsite they will see a one-way system marked by arrows on the floor across our site. The one-way system is detailed in the map which can be found via the link at the start of this letter. Please take time to familiarise students with the one-way system before they arrive at school. The area around the Library and main school building is **only** for our Keyworker and Vulnerable students as it has been since Lockdown began.

Emergency Procedures

In the unlikely event of a Fire Alarm or similar we will continue to evacuate to the Astro, lining up in teaching groups (at 2 metre distance).

Social Distancing

By now, we are all very familiar with the 2 metre social distancing rules. However, we have all seen pictures or had experiences where this has not been the case. Please keep this distance for the sake of the health of all members of our community.

Online Learning for Year 10 and 12

The in school face to face sessions will be invaluable in keeping students focused on their examination courses. However, as the government guidance states they aim to supplement online learning. Therefore, Year 10 and 12 students will still have work set online to complete.

Year 12 Pre Public Exams

Given the government's change in start date over the Bank Holiday weekend and the results of our survey as to numbers of Year 12 students who will attend in Term 6, we have adjusted the PPE plans detailed in the letter before half term. We will now do full PPEs in the first term of Year 13. In the week commencing 6 July we are borrowing from Higher Education and having online Controlled Assessments. Our Sixth Form team will share details of these assessments next week.

Student Attendance in School

Students should only be on-site when they have lessons. Please use our normal Absence Line should you need to report absence.

Student Clothing

Given the government's recommendations on clothing, we will not be requiring normal uniform and sixth form dress. While students will be wearing their own clothes, please be aware that we do expect them to dress appropriately. There should be no offensive slogans, onesies, crop tops, backless/halterneck tops or camisole style tops. Skirts/shorts should be of a suitable length to the knee and shoes or trainers (no flip flops or open back sandals) should be suitable for a day at school.

The advice asks that rooms are well ventilated so doors and windows will be kept open. Given this, should there be a colder day a jumper may be needed.

Wearing Personal Protective Equipment

The advice we have from government is that PPE, including face masks, is not required in school unless in exceptional circumstances. That said, I appreciate some students and staff may feel more comfortable wearing such items so am happy for some PPE to be worn.

Student Equipment

Students should bring their own equipment into school as there will be no sharing to prevent infection risk. Please ensure students have all they need and contact Tutors or Heads of House if there are issues.

Students Exhibiting Symptoms

Should any student exhibit Covid-19 symptoms please do not send them to school. In this case, please follow NHS guideline and afterwards contact our Absence Line. If students exhibit symptoms, they will be isolated and parents/carers will be asked to collect them.

Food and Drink

There will be **no** food or drink provided in school to avoid potential issues. This includes water as we have taken advice and turned off our dispensers. Therefore, students should bring onto site a bottle of water and any snack needed. Given students will only be attending for a few hours per day this should not be a significant issue.

Staff Absence

Given the complexities of these arrangements should there be unforeseen absence (i.e. a member of staff falls ill overnight) we will not be able to have cover teachers. In this instance, we will ring the students (and parents/carers) to let them know not to attend.

Classrooms

In order to prevent the spread of coronavirus each of our rooms will have reduced capacity to accommodate social distancing. As a result, the vast majority of our classrooms can only house a maximum of 10 to 12 students.

Cleaning

All rooms will only be used once per day. All rooms will be cleaned after use. You will appreciate that we are a large site with many rooms so that we are able to use different rooms for our sessions during the day and clean each evening.

During the day, our cleaners will be regularly cleaning public areas like doors, handrails and toilets. We are using cleaning materials and are training our cleaners in keeping with government guidelines.

Toilets

Only our individual toilets will be open to prevent students congregating at close proximity.

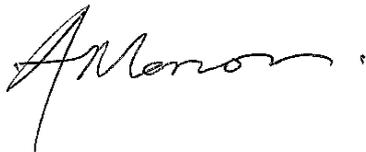
Washing Hands

Like social distancing, we are all well versed in not touching things and ensuring we wash our hands. In all the correspondence received from government this is emphasised again and again. Please ensure you are washing hands regularly. We have hand sanitiser, tissues and anti-bacterial wipes onsite but I would like to remind you that washing hands is the advice prioritised by government experts.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. As I said at the outset I acknowledged that many of you may have concerns about a return to school but I hope that you can see that FPSS is committed to ensuring a return is as safe as possible.

Please do get in touch should you have any questions but otherwise I look forward to welcoming you back to FPSS in the week commencing Monday 15 June.

Your Sincerely,



Dr Andrew Morrison
Headteacher (BA Hons, MA, PGCE, PhD)