

7<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Dear Parent / Carer,

I hope that this letter finds you and your family well. We have had a very busy and very productive return to school since March 15<sup>th</sup> and continue to be so proud of how our students have settled back into school and embraced our protocols and routines. Our attendance continues to be strong and well above both local and national averages. Thank-you for your continued support in ensuring that students attend, on time, every day.

You will be aware that on May 17<sup>th</sup> 2021, the Prime Minister moved the country to 'Step 3' of the 'Roadmap out of lockdown'. As a result of the above, please see below some key detail regarding how Airedale Academy will operate from Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2021; as detailed in the letter I sent to you before half term, **we have moved our Inset Day scheduled for the last day of term to Monday 14<sup>th</sup> June to allow us to prepare for the changes outlined below.**

### **Main Changes**

From June 15<sup>th</sup>, the school will operate in a similar way, but with two main differences relating to start and end times and movement around the school site. Our priority continues to be the safety and wellbeing of our community and as such our main system of controls remains in place. The details of the changes will be fully communicated with students.

Our plans continue to be based on national guidance, much of the content in this guidance will be familiar to you. The government guidance can be found here. [Guidance for schools: coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/guidance-for-schools-coronavirus-covid-19) Our risk assessment is on our website and will be updated in advance of the changes planned for the 15<sup>th</sup> June.

### **School Day & Movement Around School**

All students will now start school at 8:30am and finish at 2:35pm. Students will return to moving around the school site for their lessons. This will allow normality to return, which is especially important for our current Year 7 and 8 students who have had limited opportunity to do this so far. It also means that students have access to specialist classrooms and are able to take part in more engaging lessons. We will introduce a one-way system in all areas of school to reduce contact as much as possible. As a school community we are excited about being able to provide students with the resources and experience they have been deprived of for such a significant time. Students will be given a paper copy of their timetable during the first week back so they know where they need to be. Year 7 students will be given a tour of the site during this week to ensure they are familiar with where they need to be for each of their lessons.

As part of our enhanced hygiene procedures, at the end of each lesson, staff will use sanitising products to wipe down furniture in preparation for the next group of students.

Years 7, 8 and 9 will continue to be taught in universally set groups to minimise further mixing. Detentions will be conducted in year group bubbles. Students will remain in their year group bubbles at breaks and lunchtimes.

### Start and End of the School Day

The school gates will now be open from 8:15am every day. Students can arrive at any time from this point until 8:25am for a prompt start in classrooms at the scheduled start time of 8:30am. Entry and exit points for your child's year group are below:

Year Group	Entry Gate	Designated Meeting Area
Year 7	Main Gate	Maths & English quad
Year 8	Main Gate	Area in front of Science block
Year 9	Middle Gate near Library building	ADT Quad
Year 10	Middle Gate near Library building	Canteen
Sixth Form	Pedestrian Gate	Common Room

The end of the school day will revert back to all lessons, for all year groups, finishing at 2:35pm. Careful planning will ensure that students in different zones of the school will leave using designated routes to ensure as little mixing as possible.

### Social Times

There will be a slight change to social times as follows, 2 years will have lunch during one sitting, however one year group will eat whilst the other year group are outside and then they will swap over.

Year Group	Break time	Break area	Lunch time	Lunch area
7	10:50-11:00	Maths & English quad	12:05 - 12:35	Canteen
8	11:00-11:10	Area in front of science block	12:05 - 12:35	Canteen
9	11:00-11:10	ADT quad	1:05 – 1:35	Canteen
10	10:50-11:00	ADT quad	1:05 - 1:35	Canteen

Sixth Form		Common Room	12:00pm to collect lunch from canteen	Common Room
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### School Meals

We are working to be able to return to students using the biometric system (fingerprints) to pay for their meals as we did prior to the first lockdown. The school meals would still remain a cashless service, with parents and carers using our online system to make payments; however, students would pay for their purchases in the canteen using the biometric scanning devices. Consent for this system was given on enrolment forms when students joined our school. Year 7 students will be scanned to use this system later this week and we will confirm via text and *My Child at School* once the system is up and running again.

Please note, the changes outlined above are subject to the planned continuation of the government's roadmap out of lockdown.

Please can I ask that you continue to keep us informed of any Covid-19 related issues. Please can we ask you to continue to notify us if a student at the Academy tests positive for Covid-19 either by emailing us on [covid@airedaleacademy.com](mailto:covid@airedaleacademy.com) or by ringing the main office. This will allow us to ensure that we are able to continue to monitor and support students/parents/ carers as well as to respond to any cases and take the required actions with regards to self-isolation and the notification of close contacts. Please email us on [covid@airedaleacademy.com](mailto:covid@airedaleacademy.com) if a student has a positive test result providing the name and year group of the child who has tested positive, as well as a phone number that you can be contacted on for further details. If a student goes for a test, or has a test and tests negative please, email us on [info@airedaleacademy.com](mailto:info@airedaleacademy.com) . These emails will be manned throughout the week and during weekends.

Please can I take this opportunity to thank-you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully



Miss L Proctor  
Principal