

Year 10 and 12 return to school based learning – Student and Parent FAQs

These FAQs are designed to help you to understand the process of returning to school from Monday 15th June. Please use these questions to help you make an informed decision about your child returning to school.

What day am I allowed to come in to school?

- Parents will be sent a letter on Monday 8th June setting out the day that they are allowed to come in to school. On occasion, students may be invited in at another time but only if specifically invited by a member of staff.

What if I'm not going to be able to come in?

- If you are not going to attend please call or email the school office on office@thevictoryacademy.org.uk

What if I or someone in my family have symptoms of COVID 19? (persistent new cough, fever or loss of smell/taste)

- If you or someone in your family has symptoms then you should not come in to school. Please contact us and tell us if this is the case.

What if a student or member of staff in a bubble becomes ill with symptoms?

- All staff / students in that bubble would be sent home and told to isolate for 14 days or until the original case has a confirmed negative test.

How many bubbles are on site on any one day?

- On any one day there is a maximum of 3 bubbles on site at any one time, each with different start / lunch / end times.
- We also continue to be open for the children of Key Workers.

Am I able to mix with friends from outside my bubble?

- No. The only students and staff you will have contact with will be those in your bubble. These bubbles will not change for the entirety of Term 6.

How have the bubbles been decided?

- Ms Hryniewicz (for Year 12) and Miss Simperl and Mrs Anderson (for Year 10) have decided the bubbles. The key factor considered when doing so was to ensure that all students had at least one friend in their bubble.

Can I change my bubble?

- No. the government guidance is clear that students must only mix with up to 14 other students so we will not be moving students from 1 bubble to another in Term 6.
- Similarly, the staff attached to each bubble will not change until the end of Term 6.

Will my child be taught by one of their teachers?

- No. Each bubble will have 2 teachers allocated to support the students but subject specific teaching will not be provided.
- Family bubble leaders will speak with students and if they are in need of subject-specific support will contact colleagues from the relevant department and ask them to contact the student (see Remote Learning Plus below).

Is my bubble based in 1 room all day?

- No. Each bubble has 3 rooms allocated to it:
 - 1 computer room
 - 2 neighbouring breakout spaces for students to work independently / staff to hold 1:1 discussions with students / 'remote learning plus' sessions to occur as appropriate.

Will there be any large gatherings (assemblies or similar)?

- No. there will be no assemblies or any time where students from bubbles are brought together.

What is the uniform / dress code?

- Students should be in school uniform except for blazer and tie, which are not needed. Students will not be allowed on to site if they are in jeans / shorts / t-shirts etc.
- Clothes should be washed after returning home.
- Students will not need PE kit.
- We accept that students may have grown out of their uniform and it may be difficult for parents to buy replacements. Therefore if you have any uniform queries then please contact us at office@thevictoryacademy.org.uk so we can discuss with you.

What are the plans for student arrival?

- The letter that was sent home on Monday 8th June set out your arrival time. Students must arrive at this time.
- All Year 10 / 12 students need to arrive at reception and staff will be there to meet and greet them.
- All will be arriving at staggered times. Students will not be allowed entry before their allocated time.
- Student start times are from 9.30am so that they are not travelling in rush hour.
- Students will be asked to line up outside reception, ensuring 2m distance.
- Coloured wristbands will be handed out by staff which we will ask students to wear all day so we can easily identify which bubble a student belongs to.
- Once all students have arrived, their family bubble leaders will walk students to their learning base.

What if a student arrives late?

- Staff will be at the gate to meet and greet students. If a student arrives late they will be met and escorted to their family bubble base.

How should students travel to school?

- The government is clear that as far as possible they do not want students to use public transport to get to school. Therefore,
 - If possible students should walk or cycle to school
 - Alternatively, parents should drive students to school and drop them in the top car park
 - If neither of these are possible, then students can take public transport. If this is the only option, then students are asked to be sensible whilst on their journey to school – they will have to wear facemasks on public transport and observe 2m distancing.
 - Here is the new bus timetable if needed

<https://www.arrivabus.co.uk/coronavirus/important-service-information---kent-and-surrey/>

What should students bring with them?

- Their own water bottle which is not to be shared with anyone else
- Any snacks for break time
- All necessary equipment (pen, pencil, rubber, ruler, logbook)
- Headphones with a 'standard' jack

What toilets will be used?

- Each bubble has their own allocated toilets for both students and staff and no other toilets should be used.
- Each bubble has specific toilet / handwashing times built in which MUST be adhered to. At these times students will line up by the toilets (ensuring 2m distance) and staff will supervise them queuing sensibly as they visit the toilet / wash hands.

What is the plan for the day?

- Each bubble has their own rota to follow which will ensure they do not meet with any other bubble at any time.
- Each bubble has a separate start time / break time / lunch time / end time.

What is the plan for the sessions in the bubble?

- Each student will be allocated their own desk / computer for the day and they are not to change desk at all throughout the day.
- On the first day the new plans and expectations will be clearly set out.
- All students will be given 'time to talk' with staff and friends about their lockdown experiences.
- The main activity throughout the day is for students to engage with their online learning and complete work on tasks on SMHW, with bubble staff supervising.
- If students need to print off work, this can be sent to our school office who will print off what is needed and will deliver it back to the bubble room.
- Each day, students will have a 1:1 talk with one member of staff in the bubble to establish:
 - Their wellbeing
 - Their progress with remote learning
 - Any IT issues arising
 - Whether there any subjects that they have particular concerns with. If so bubble leaders can arrange Remote Learning PLUS as appropriate (see below).

Remote Learning PLUS

- If a student needs any subject specific support in any particular subject, staff will contact a member of that department and arrange for them to make contact with the relevant student(s).
 - This contact could be:
 - Real-time email contact either on the same day or on an agreed day
 - Teams conversation either on the same day or on an agreed day
 - In person meeting either that day or on a subsequent day by appointment.

What happens at break time?

- Students will be escorted (keeping 2m distance) to their designated zone in the courtyard so they can socialise with peers from their bubble.
- If weather is bad, students will remain in their family bubble base.

How will students get lunch?

- Students can either bring a packed lunch or buy a school lunch (£2.95). Students in receipt of Free School Meals will continue to be entitled to a free lunch.
- If students want a school lunch, parents must ensure they have sufficient funds on their account. Students will not be able to load money on to their account from in school.
- Students will be asked to order their lunch at the start of the day. Kitchen staff will prepare lunches and will deduct the cost of the lunch from student's online accounts. Kitchen staff will deliver the lunches to the family bubble base at the end of their last learning session.
- Students will then be escorted back to the main entrance to leave site. Students must go directly home and not socialise with other students. This is to protect the integrity of the family bubbles.

Are behaviour expectations the same as usual?

- Our behaviour expectations are the same as usual. Students will be expected to behave respectfully and appropriately when in school and meet our high expectations.
- We must make it clear that our first priority is to keep our community safe, as we transition back to school based learning. Therefore if a student is unable to engage appropriately at school, respecting social distancing and the need for family bubbles to remain apart from each other, then we will have no choice but to ask that child to only engage with distance learning at home. This is to ensure the safety of our whole school community.

What are your plans for social distancing?

- The short video sent to parents before half term will be used to teach and reinforce the concept <https://www.tsatrust.org.uk/about/coronavirus/>. We have also created visual cues for all classrooms and shared areas to help understanding. We will use phrases such as 'you are currently too close, please move away' to reinforce these expectations.

What hygiene measures are in place?

- There is a full risk assessment in place for the bubbles which will be updated daily. The school risk assessment will be updated weekly. Key points are that:
 - The doors of the family bases will be kept open so that door handles will not be used.
 - Windows will be kept open.

- No equipment will be loaned out to students. See above section on 'what students need to bring with them'. There will be a supply of paper and pens in rooms that can be given out if needed.
- Staff will not be able to collect in any books / work.
- Each bubble has a supply of hand sanitiser / disinfectant spray / paper towels and students will be encouraged to clean their area (chair / desk / computer) after use.
- Students will sit 2m apart and should be asked to clean their areas after use.
- As discussed above, there is a rota for handwashing throughout the day which students will need to follow.

What if my child needs First Aid or Pastoral support?

- A basic First Aid kit will be supplied to each room.
- We will have a trained First Aider on site each day. If a student needs First Aid then our First Aider will be contacted by family bubble leaders to assist.
- Should a student be removed from the bubble for First Aid reasons, they will be taken to Student Services for assessment and parents may be contacted and asked to come and collect them.
- Our Designated Safeguarding Lead or her Deputies will be on site every day and can be contacted by family bubble leaders if a student wishes to discuss anything sensitive.

What if there is a fire drill?

- Our fire drill plans have been amended but essentially plans remain the same – in the event of the fire alarm sounding, students will be escorted out of their building, keeping 2m distance between themselves and others, until it is safe to return.

What happens at the end of each day?

- At end of day, students should pack up everything they have brought in and must NOT hand back any equipment or hand any work in.
- Students should clean their working area using the equipment provided.
- Students should remove and throw away their wristbands before departure.
- Family bubble leaders will escort students back to reception, keeping 2m distance, and ensure sensible departure.

Can parents come on to site?

- Not unless it is an emergency as we need to limit all visitors coming into school.
- If completely unavoidable, please contact office@thevictoryacademy.org.uk and we will discuss this with you.

What happens next?

- A member of staff from the bubble will contact parents/students in week of 8th June to discuss the provision so that you can ask them any questions or discuss any concerns.
- We ask all parents to ensure that we have your most up-to-date contact details including any new mobile phone numbers so we can contact you easily should we need to.
- If you still have any remaining questions having read this and having spoken with the member of staff who contacts you, please email us on office@thevictoryacademy.org.uk with any further queries.

Does my child have to come in?

- This provision is aiming to support our Year 10 and Year 12 students with their learning but it may not be suitable or required for all students. The government has been clear that parents will not be penalised if their child does not attend for this provision in Term 6.
- Whether your child attends for these face-to-face sessions or not, remote learning will continue for all Year 10 and Year 12 throughout Term 6.
- Individual circumstances can be discussed with the family bubble leaders when they contact you during the week of 8th June.
- We fully respect parental decisions – however please do inform us of your decision. You will be able to change your mind at a later date if you wish.