

Frequently Asked Questions

March 2021 Return to School

How will you limit the risk of infection for my son/daughter?

The academy has thoroughly reviewed our comprehensive risk assessment ahead of re-opening on Monday March 8th 2021. This has supported us in putting in place a rigorous programme of measures to limit the risk to all members of our community. These measures include:

- Students will receive lateral flow tests (see Question2)
- Year Group “bubbles” and dedicated Year Group “zones”, both within the academy building and in communal areas, remain. This includes an entry/exit protocol for accessing the academy site:



- Social distancing, wherever possible.
- Rearranged classrooms - ensuring desks are spaced out as far as possible and unnecessary furniture and equipment has been removed. Wherever possible, desks will be facing the front.
- Limited mixing - students will stay in their Year Groups, and staff members will travel to them. Breaks, lunch and the end of the academy day will be staggered (see below).
- Minimised contact with individuals who may become unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school. This will be supported by regular testing to ensure that “asymptomatic” cases are identified quickly.
- Cleaning hands more often than usual - washing hands thoroughly for 20 seconds with running water and soap, or using alcohol hand sanitiser, ensuring that all parts of the hands are covered.
- Ensuring good respiratory hygiene – promoting the ‘catch it, bin it, kill it’ approach.
- Cleaning frequently touched surfaces and shared rooms between each use.

Will my child be tested regularly for Covid-19?

Home testing is being introduced for secondary age pupils (11+) and college students to identify people who have asymptomatic Covid 19 and to prevent the spread of the infection. It is important that students are initially supervised whilst swabbing to make sure they are doing it correctly. This is why testing will initially take place on-site. Secondary schools and colleges have to offer students 3 tests on-site, 3 to 5 days apart upon their return. Following testing on-site pupils will transition to tests at home. The academy will offer training to both parents and students to support with this process.

Parents do not have to consent to testing but students cannot be tested without a completed form. In the interests of safeguarding our community, we strongly advise that you do so. A consent form will be sent separately with the final details outlining the academy's plans for a phased return.

The consent form can be downloaded [here](#)

Can I decide not to send my child to school?

No. The scientific evidence shows that it is now safe for staff and students to attend school. The Government have made it clear that you will be fined, and/or could face legal intervention, if you do not send your children back to school in March 2021. Our Attendance and Pastoral Teams are available to support families if you have any questions or concerns.

Will my child be able to use the school bus?

Yes. The Norfolk School Bus programme will run as normal. Likewise, First Bus will allow School Bus passes to be used on their services, providing current Government guidelines are followed:



DISCOVER
CREATE
THRIVE
ACHIEVE

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-safer-travel-guidance-for-passengers#public-transport>

Face masks must be worn whilst travelling.

Wherever possible, we strongly suggest that students do not use public and/or school transport e.g. walk/cycle or arrive by car.

Will my child have to wear a face covering in school?

In line with Government guidelines, students will need to wear a reusable mask in the academy, including classroom and teaching areas. This should be as plain as possible. Branded face coverings will not be permitted. Students will receive PPE training as part of their Orientation Day when they first return.

How to wear a face covering

A face covering should:

- cover your nose and mouth while allowing you to breathe comfortably
- fit comfortably but securely against the side of the face
- be secured to the head with ties or ear loops
- be made of a material that you find to be comfortable and breathable, such as cotton
- ideally include at least 2 layers of fabric (the World Health Organization recommends 3, depending on the fabric used)
- unless disposable, it should be able to be washed with other items of laundry according to fabric washing instructions and dried without causing the face covering to be damaged

When wearing a face covering you should:

- wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water for 20 seconds or use hand sanitiser before putting a face covering on
- avoid wearing on your neck or forehead
- avoid touching the part of the face covering in contact with your mouth and nose, as it could be contaminated with the virus
- change the face covering if it becomes damp or if you have touched it
- avoid taking it off and putting it back on a lot in quick succession

Will lunch be provided?

No. Unless you are in receipt of Free School Meals, students will need to bring a packed lunch. Students will still be able to make a purchase from a small selection of snack food at Break and Lunch. In the interests of health and safety, however, we cannot accept cash payments. If you need support with ParentPay, please contact the academy. Thank you.

My child has dyed hair/long fingernails or committed other infringements of the school dress code during Lockdown. I want to support you – what should we do?

In line with Government guidance, from March 2021, we expect students to wear their full school uniform. Please ensure that excess piercings, long fingernails, hair dye and so on are removed in advance of our re-opening. A copy of our Uniform Policy is available on our website (www.cliffparkoa.co.uk/parents/uniform/)

Practical PE lessons will re-start W/B 22nd March 2021. Students should wear their Academy PE kit on the days that they have practical PE lessons.

What should my son/daughter bring to school?

Your son/daughter will need to bring a pen, pencil, ruler, rubber and protractor. Students in the Upper School (Years 9-11) will also need a calculator. Equipment cannot be shared with other students. We also strongly suggest that your son/daughter brings a warm coat as Break and Lunch will require them to be outside. Please remember that hoodies, sweatshirts and other fashionwear are not permitted under any circumstance.

What times will my child be in school?

Year 7 and 8		Years 9, 10 and 11	
8.50	Registration	8.50	Registration
9.15	Period 1	9.15	Period 1
10.15	Break	10.15	Period 2
10.30	Period 2	11.15	Break
11.30	Period 3	11.30	Period 3
12.30	Lunch	12.30	Period 4
1.00	Period 4	1.30	Lunch
2.00	Period 5	2.00	Period 5
3.00	End of Day	3.00	Year 11 Period 6 Begins
		3.10	Year 9 End of Day
		3.15	Year 10 End of Day

I'm coming by car. Where should I drop off my child?

In the interests of health and safety, and to limit the numbers of people on site, you cannot drop off/collect at the academy gate and/or come onto the academy site.

If you need to speak to a member of academy staff, please call the academy to make an appointment in advance. In the interests of health and safety, it will not be possible to see parents who have not made an appointment and we apologise for any inconvenience that this may cause.

The East Gate will be closed until further notice.

Siblings will need to wait outside of the academy site, as we cannot risk year group “bubbles” mixing. If your son or daughter has specialist needs, please speak to Mrs P Myhill (Assistant Principal, SENDCo) who will be happy to help.

What happens if the academy must close again?

In the unlikely event of another local Lockdown and/or academy closure, Home/Remote Learning will utilise a combination of:

- Teacher-led lessons, in-line with the academy’s “normal” curriculum and associated timetable (Microsoft Teams lessons, on-line resources and recorded mini-lessons). This will include:
 - Tuition in the Core subjects of English, Mathematics and Science, as well as small group catch-up tutoring for identified students
 - Cliff Park Culture and Character sessions
 - PE and active sessions
 - Humanities and MFL sessions (as appropriate)
 - Vocational subjects, including Creative Arts and Technology (as appropriate)
 - Regular on-line assessment activities

Paperwork packs and/or equipment will be provided to students who do not have access to ICT and/or for those who are self-isolating.

- Weekly Pastoral Tutorials
- Community activities, including competitions and charity work etc.

What are Covid-19 symptoms? What should I do if my child, or a member of our family, has these symptoms?

Covid-19 symptoms are:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste.

If you or a family member has symptoms, please self-isolate and contact the NHS to book a test.

Should we have a positive case, we will need to conduct our usual Track and Trace procedure. Close contacts will be asked to isolate for 10 days.

An individual who tests positive must isolate for 10 days from the day AFTER the symptoms started. Anyone who has been in close contact needs to isolate for 10 days from the day AFTER the last day of contact with the infected person. If the infected person did not have any symptoms, they isolate for 10 days from the date of the positive test.

The close contact list has also changed since before Christmas. Please note anyone in the following category will need to isolate:

- anyone in the household of the infected person
- anyone who has had face-to-face contact with the infected person within 1 metre
- anyone within 1 metre for 1 minute or longer
- any sexual contacts
- anyone within 2 metres of an infected person for 15 minutes or more (either in one session or spread over the day)
- anyone who has travelled in the same vehicle as an infected person

