



March 3<sup>rd</sup> 2021

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Principal: Mrs N Walker

Dear Parents/Carers,

## Reopening of the Academy for all Pupils from 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021

As you will be aware, the government has issued guidance for a full return to school for all pupils across the country from week commencing the 8<sup>th</sup> March. It gives me great pleasure to write to you to provide you with the specific details around our full academy re-opening, and how we intend to support all pupils to return safely and to full attendance following the recent school closures.

In order to ensure that the re-opening of the academy takes place safely and in line with government guidance, Horbury Academy will operate a staggered re-opening to pupils from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March. This staggered return will allow form tutors and leaders to welcome back all of our pupils and work with them to ensure they understand how to remain safe whilst on site, as well as revisiting with pupils our expectations around standards and learning on their return.

### Health and safety of pupils and staff on site

The academy continues to work closely within the guidance from the DfE during these continued unprecedented times. I would like to assure all parents and carers that the health and safety of all pupils and staff remains of paramount importance. Many of our health and safety protocols remain in place for pupils and staff on their return, with additional measures being put in place as per government guidance. A copy of the academy's risk assessment will be available for all parents and carers to view on our website from Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2021. This risk assessment outlines the steps the academy is taking to ensure that it can re-open safely and in line with government guidance.

### Pupils or household members displaying coronavirus symptoms

Please be advised that pupils should not attend the academy if they or anyone in their household are exhibiting coronavirus symptoms. Pupils who show symptoms should be tested via a local testing centre and PCR test with the results of this test being communicated to the academy. For further information in relation to testing please follow this link <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>.

***We would politely request that pupils and parents/carers do not use the academy Lateral Flow Testing Centre as a means of testing your child if they are experiencing coronavirus symptoms. Our testing site is for asymptomatic testing of pupils only and does not replace the PCR test required for those showing symptoms.***

### Date and time of each year group's return to the academy

Outlined below are the times that each year group should return to the academy next week. This is for an onsite induction and to resume face to face teaching.

Date	Year group	Learning provision	Academy day	Academy entry point
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	Yr11	On-site Induction and face to face lessons	8:30 to 2:45 (unless participating in allocated P7's)	Main gates and pupil entrance
	Yr7-10	Remote learning continues.		

		<i>Yr 8 and 9 will only attend academy site to receive their Lateral Flow test outlined in the letter on 2<sup>nd</sup> March.</i>		
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Yr 11	On-site face to face lessons continue	<b>8:30 to 2:45</b> (unless participating in allocated P7's)	Main gates and pupil entrance
	Yr 10	On-site Induction and face to face lessons	<b>9:00 – 3:15</b>	Main gates and pupil entrance
	Yr 9	On-site Induction and face to face lessons	<b>8:30 to 2:45</b>	Northfield Lane Gate and Quad doors
	Yr 8	On-site Induction and face to face lessons	<b>9:00 – 3:15</b>	Northfield Lane Gate and Quad doors
	Yr 7	On-site Induction and face to face lessons	<b>8:45 – 3:00</b>	Main gates and pupil entrance

**In addition to this, our Emergency Care Provision (ECP) will continue to operate on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March. All pupils in years 7 – 10 who would ordinarily attend our ECP should continue to attend as normal on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March.**

Given the continued prevalence of coronavirus in the community, it is essential that pupils do not congregate in groups prior to attending the academy at the start or the end of the day. Pupils will not be permitted to congregate in the community, or the local parade of shops if they arrive to the academy earlier than their allocated start time, or when they leave, as this presents a risk for the local community.

#### **Attendance at the academy**

From week commencing the 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021, pupil attendance at the academy is mandatory and as such all pupils are expected to make a full return on the correct date and time as shown above. There will be no option for pupils to continue to work remotely unless their absence is related to self-isolation due to coronavirus. We are very much looking forward to welcoming our pupils back onto site safely.

If you believe your child requires additional support to ensure that they make a full return to the academy, then please contact their PYL in the first instance. A copy of the PYL/SEND/Mental Health support contact details are shown below for your reference:

<b>Academy Contact Details for Pupils Requiring Support</b>	
<b>Year 7</b>	<a href="mailto:Year7Enquiries@horbury.accordmat.org">Year7Enquiries@horbury.accordmat.org</a>
<b>Year 8</b>	<a href="mailto:Year8Enquiries@horbury.accordmat.org">Year8Enquiries@horbury.accordmat.org</a>
<b>Year 9</b>	<a href="mailto:Year9Enquiries@horbury.accordmat.org">Year9Enquiries@horbury.accordmat.org</a>
<b>Year 10</b>	<a href="mailto:Year10Enquiries@horbury.accordmat.org">Year10Enquiries@horbury.accordmat.org</a>
<b>Year 11</b>	<a href="mailto:Year11Enquiries@horbury.accordmat.org">Year11Enquiries@horbury.accordmat.org</a>
<b>SEND Support</b>	<a href="mailto:vmartin@horbury.accordmat.org">vmartin@horbury.accordmat.org</a>
<b>Mental Health Support</b>	<a href="mailto:mdixon@horbury.accordmat.org">mdixon@horbury.accordmat.org</a>

#### **Minimising contact with others when on academy site**

All pupils should return to the academy with their colour coded year group lanyard and ensure that these are worn and highly visible each day.

The academy will continue to operate the year group zoning of pupils to minimise their contact with pupils outside of their year group (this includes our lunch and break time arrangements). The year group zones will remain in the same academy areas as those in our first term. All pupils will continue to be advised for their own health and safety and that of others, that they do not enter zones outside their allocated year group areas. It is essential that we continue to minimise the movement of pupils across the academy to reduce the risk of transmitting the virus.

We will revisit our year group zones and the ways in which we will continue to minimise movement around the academy with pupils as part of their induction on return.

### **The wearing of face coverings in the academy – changes to the government guidance**

All pupils should ensure that they bring a suitable face covering into the academy with them each day.

The latest government guidance stipulates that face coverings are essential in any indoor setting where a 2m social distancing cannot be maintained. **This means that all pupils will now be expected to wear a face covering at all times when inside the academy, including in their lessons as a further control measure.** The only exception to the wearing of face coverings is where pupils are exempt, when they are seated and eating or drinking in their allocated dining area or during PE lessons.

### **Standards and expectations on return**

All pupils will be expected to wear full academy uniform correctly (including appropriate footwear) when they return to the academy on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> March. All our uniform suppliers continue to operate an online ordering service during this time.

If you are experiencing any difficulties sourcing uniform prior to return, please contact the Pastoral Year Leader for your child's year group where we will be happy to support you.

As well as ensuring all our pupils return in full uniform, it is also important the following standards are in place on return:

- All pupils must be fully compliant with all academy health and safety procedures.
- All pupils must behave in line with our expectations both in lessons and around academy site.
- All pupils should remove any piercings, make up, unnatural hair colourings, artificial nails or tan.
- All pupils should bring their planner and any required learning equipment onto site with them when they return. For hygiene reasons it is important that each pupil has their own stationery including pens, pencils and rulers etc. It will also be useful where possible for pupils to bring their own white board pen.
- All pupils should wear their coloured year group lanyard, and this should remain visible at all times.
- Pupils can continue to wear their PE kit (including trainers) on days when they are timetabled to have PE lessons.
- Mobile phones and Smart watches continue to be prohibited and pupils should not use their mobile phone when on academy site. These should not be seen or heard and where they are, they will be confiscated by staff.

I hope the information provided in this letter is useful to support with preparations for a return to the academy.

Should you have any questions or queries relating to our return please contact the academy via our enquiries email address [enquiries@horbury.accordmat.org](mailto:enquiries@horbury.accordmat.org).

Thank you in anticipation of your support. I very much look forward to welcoming all pupils back to Horbury Academy on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> of March.

Best wishes,



Mrs N Walker  
Principal