

3 September 2020

Dear Parents,

Excitement is mounting before the imminent arrival of our students. We are looking forward to the year ahead, seeing Year 12 and our new Year 7 boys on Friday and the other year groups next week. Our boarding families have been dropping their luggage off at Fraser Youens House in readiness for making it their weekday and term time home. We have very much enjoyed seeing staff again who have, this week, been in School preparing for the start of the new term.

Thank you very much for taking the time to read the plans about the re-opening of the school sent out in August. Your continuous support and your feedback is appreciated. I do not wish to repeat all the detail of the previous communication, but you will be aware of the attention that mask wearing has received in the press this last week. Within our community:

- Masks are to be worn at all times in school corridors and indoor communal areas by both students and staff.
- We recognise that many students will be concerned about the return to school and they are welcome to wear masks at all times should they wish.
- Some staff may request that students wear a mask in their lesson and we would expect students to meet this request and have asked those staff to model this by wearing one too.

The new guidance has given us the opportunity to review and amend our plans:

- Whilst the revised guidance on the wearing of masks has reduced the need for a fully staggered day, we will continue to stagger the break and lunchtimes as set out below to ensure all students have time to access food in a safe environment.
- We are adding a five-minute break after Period 2; this will give staff more time to sanitise the desks and give boys the chance to remove their mask outside if they have been asked to wear them by their teacher.
- The nature of the School estate did not readily lend itself to a complete one-way system. The wearing of masks makes this less of a necessity. We will, however, maintain a one-way system in some parts of the School e.g. the dining room and science areas.
- There was a groundswell of disappointment from both staff and parents at the suspension of non CCF Thursday Afternoon Activities (TAA). There was further concern for students in Years 10 and 11 needing to catch trains in lieu of the normal school buses. We have revisited this and have made the decision to reinstate TAA, although certain activities will not be able to take place until later in the year.
- Could you kindly remind your sons to bring all their equipment for a full school day. Goggles for science are essential and please include stationary items such as glue and scissors as we will not be able to provide these.

We have also looked closely at guidance in relation to PE and Games. To this end:

- Year 7-11 **PE lessons** – Change upon arrival to lesson and change back into uniform at the end of the lesson.
- Year 7-11 **Games sessions** – Students arrive at school in the morning of their Games session already in RGS PE/Games kit. **Year 8 and 9 Rugby players** will bring school uniform and change into uniform after completion of their rugby session in Games, ready for afternoon lessons.

- **Year 12 Games** – Students wear suits (as per normal RGS uniform code) on the morning of their Games session and change into appropriate sportswear ready for the session to begin. They may leave the site in sports wear at the end of the day.

When your son returns to school he will be shown a video by his Form Tutor and given a leaflet which explains the changes that have been made. The aim of this is to ease any worries he may have about returning to RGS. If your son cannot attend school for any reason, please email attendance@rgshw.com on each day of absence.

We want your sons to return to a safe and supportive environment and we are looking forward to rebuilding that sense of belonging and community.

Yours sincerely

Alex Wallace

Deputy Headmaster

Timings	Length (mins)	
0840		arrival
0845	20	registration
0905	40	1
0945	35	2
1020	5	5-minute Break
1025	40	3
1105	35	4
1140	45	Lunch Break 1
1225	40	5
1305	40	6
1345	35	Lunch Break 2
1420	40	7
1500	40	8
1540		Finish

Boys are able to use Form Rooms at break and lunchtime, irrespective of the weather. They may **not** eat in the Form Rooms, unless we have declared a wet weather day. They may not go into other Form Rooms. They do not need to wear masks when in their Form Room.

Year 13 on site between 0840 and 1305, unless timetabled for Period 6, 7 or 8.

Year 12 on site between 0840 and 1305, unless timetabled for Period 6, 7 or 8.

	Social area	1115	1140	1155	1210		1325	1345	1355	1405
Year 7	Year 7 playground		Canteen	School Shop					Snack Shack	
Year 8	Geography / Maths Area			Canteen				Snack Shack		School Shop
Year 9	Quad		School Shop		Canteen					Snack Shack
Year 10	Snack Shack Area		Snack Shack		School Shop			Canteen		
Year 11	School Shop Area			Snack Shack				School Shop	Canteen	
Year 12	Back of Canteen	Café Royal			Snack Shack		Café Royal		School Shop	Canteen
Year 13	Mezzanine	Café Royal			Snack Shack		Café Royal		School Shop	Canteen