



11<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

### YEAR 10 STUDENTS ONLY

On 24<sup>th</sup> May, the Prime Minister announced that secondary schools should plan on the basis that from 15<sup>th</sup> June they could invite Year 10 back into school for some face-to-face educational experience.

The Trust Board for Manchester Health Academy have viewed our planning for this and are satisfied that the Academy can now open, in a limited way, for Year 10 students this coming Monday.

I am sure that you and your child will be feeling a range of emotions about a return to school, ranging from relief to anxiety.

I write to you to:

1. Provide you with details of the day of the week, start and end times for the day that your child is invited into school.
2. Answer questions you may have about how we will manage the safety of your child, other children and staff.

Each Year 10 student will **only be in school for one day per week** (online learning will continue for your child alongside this).

**Personalised details of the day of the week and start/end times for your child have been sent out on the parent app; if you have not yet activated your account, please contact the office on 0161 998 3992 for assistance in downloading it to avoid missing out on any future vital correspondence.**



## **Questions you may have about how we will manage the safety of your child, other children and staff**

### ***Are all students in Year 10 in school at the same time?***

We are only allowed to have a maximum of 25% of the year group in school at any one time. The result is that for Year 10, only 46 students will be in the building at any one time. Each group of 46 students will in fact only be in one day per week. Students will attend on the same day each week – their day will be either Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday. Friday is used for an extensive deep clean and will continue to be open only to our vulnerable students and children of critical workers.

### ***Will there be a full timetable of lessons?***

During a two-week period, your child will access English, Maths, Science and Humanities lessons. There will be time for a morning break and lunch. The cycle of lessons will then repeat until the end of the summer term. Lessons will involve checking in on and filling gaps in knowledge and to support where there have been issues about accessing online work.

### ***What about social distancing and the importance of hygiene?***

Each morning, students will be reminded about expectations regarding hygiene, social distancing etc. They will be supported with their mental health and anxieties.

Rooms have been set out to cater for a **maximum of 12 students**. There is a 2 metre gap between all students and the teacher. The classroom will be used only once per week, by the same group of 12 students. The room will be subjected to a deep clean before students arrive the following week.

Students will be provided with a pencil case and stationery that they will leave in school until the following week when they return. There will be no need to share equipment. They will sit at the same desk allocated to them.

Student arrival will be slightly staggered to prevent 46 students arriving at the same time.

Tissues and cleaning materials will be provided in each classroom. Bins will have lids on and good respiratory hygiene and handwashing promoted. There are ample stocks of cleaning materials. There will be antibacterial cleaning stations positioned in the canteen.

### ***Will the school be providing any PPE for children or staff?***

PPE will not be worn by students or staff apart from those administering first aid or dealing with a student or member of staff displaying Covid-19 symptoms. We will provide PPE for those staff and students who have no alternative but to use public transport, but not for use in the building. Please contact school beforehand to request PPE.

**We recommend that staff and students avoid using public transport at this stage.**



The public health guidance is that **PPE should not be worn in school** and that good hygiene and social distancing will be enough to prevent any potential for transmission of the virus.

***What about students who are unwell?***

Firstly, I ask that if a child is feeling unwell for any reason, they should not attend school. Parents and carers of students who present as unwell during the day will be contacted and arrangements will be made to collect the student. They will be kept in the first aid room or, if displaying Covid-19 symptoms, they will be held in a separate Covid-19 isolation room. This room will be deep cleaned after each use and is well ventilated. We would not send a child home unless accompanied by a parent/carer.

If any child has Covid-19 symptoms then any siblings would need to self-isolate also until a negative test result is confirmed or until a 14 day period of self-isolation if the siblings test is positive, along with other members of the same household.

***What measures are in place for any students refusing to adhere to social distancing?***

Students will be reminded about the importance of social distancing. There will be markers on floors to guide them and signage as a further reminder. For students who refuse to comply there is zero tolerance around this. They will be sent home. Student and staff well-being will not be risked by a student who cannot respect this. Please be reassured that our students are incredibly respectful, and I do not see this being a problem.

***How many students will be in a class and how will they move around the building safely?***

As described in the introduction, there will be a maximum of 12 students per group. They will remain in a classroom and staff will rotate into the room to teach them. This will significantly reduce the volume of unnecessary traffic around the school. Students will be supervised as they go to and whilst they are in the canteen.

***Will staff who have been working from home/doing visits/phone calls/email support be able to continue to do so to support the other year groups?***

Yes, this work is essential and will continue.

***What about computers etc. Are these difficult to clean?***

Year 10 will not be using ICT/devices in school. This will present additional and unnecessary risk and present cleaners with extra work on a daily basis, where the emphasis will be on deep cleaning. All students now have access to a laptop at home. ICT based work can continue to be set for completion at home. The face-to-face opportunity with Year 10 is to address misconceptions for example, or for gap filling and reviewing of work.



***What about school uniform?***

School uniform expectations will be relaxed. Students can wear casual clothing until the end of term. Clothing and footwear must be sensible.

***What about food and drink?***

School will provide food free of charge for all students. You may choose to provide your child with a packed lunch. Please ensure your child brings their own water to school in the MHA water bottle which has already been provided. This should be sufficient for the day as all water fountains have been turned off as part of our Covid-19 protocols.

***I am a key worker. What about my child?***

Vulnerable children and children of key workers are still able to attend each day. On the day specified at the top of the letter, which cannot be changed, they will be in a classroom with their Year 10 group.

***What about a child who is either clinically vulnerable or who is living with a family member who is clinically vulnerable?***

Your child is not expected in school and can continue to access work online.

***What about medication, such as an asthma inhaler?***

It is a requirement that your child brings their own medication to school. There can be no sharing of inhalers, for example.

Yours sincerely



**Mr K Green**  
Principal

