



MAHARISHI SCHOOL

CONSCIOUSNESS - BASED EDUCATION

27 July 2020

Dear parents and carers,

We hope that you are keeping well and enjoying the summer holidays.

I am contacting you today with a brief outline of our September plans. We are expecting to hear more from the Department for Education prior to the start of the new school year, so I will write to you again then with more details.

Our ultimate aim is to welcome our pupils back in as safe a way as possible so that they can reconnect with their friends, classmates and school staff and have access to quality face-to-face teaching and learning. We have made adjustments to our routines, following the latest government guidance, which will reduce contact between groups and, thereby, minimise transmission risks and minimise the number of pupils/groups/staff who would need to self-isolate if we have a positive COVID-19 case in school.

School will open to all pupils from Friday 5 September at 10:00. Entry to school will be staggered. **On the first day of term, please arrive between 9:50 - 10:10. On all subsequent days, please arrive between 8:50 - 9:10.** Staff will be present at the school gate to greet the children. Please observe social distancing at the school gate and remain in your car if you can see that there is a long queue at the school gate. Pupils will go straight to their classroom and will be supervised by teaching staff.

Pupils will wear full school uniform. Secondary phase pupils may wear their sports hoodie or any other school-related hoodie (eg. DofE, Spain trip) under their blazer during the autumn term. As windows will be open throughout the day to provide ventilation in the classrooms, pupils will also be able to wear their coats if they are cold. Primary pupils who cannot tie their shoe laces must wear slip-on or velcro fastening shoes.

Primary pupils will stay in their classroom and will have a dedicated intervention space and toilet. Secondary pupils will be based in the same classroom each day with the teachers moving between classrooms. There will be no secondary phase vertical form groups in the autumn term. Each secondary phase class will have a separate toilet. Breaks and lunchtimes will be staggered. Lunch will be eaten in the classroom.

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Secondary phase pupils will not be allowed out for lunch in the autumn term. Whole school assemblies will continue to take place, however they will be conducted remotely.

Primary sport will take place on the school site and will be taught in separate year groups. Secondary sport will take place on a rota basis with two classes each week accessing sport on Friday afternoons within walking distance from the school, and three groups remaining in school on Friday afternoons to access 'catch-up' work.

Exit from the school will be staggered from 3:20 - 3:40 at the primary phase and from 3:50 - 4:10 at the secondary phase. Please observe the same guidance at the start and the end of the school day.

We are currently exploring the viability of offering an Out of Hours Club in the autumn term. In order for us to offer this service, whilst following the current guidance, there would need to be a separate OoH Club for each year group, which would increase the cost to parents. If we were able to offer the club, it would be necessary for parents to sign up and pay for a full half term, rather than the 'drop-in' service that we have previously offered. This would enable us to be able to cost and staff the service. Please let us know via parents@maharishischool.com if you would be interested in using the OoH Club if we are able to offer it.

We will be unable to offer the minibus service during the autumn term.

Meetings with parents will be conducted remotely wherever possible. If a face-to-face meeting is necessary, we hope to have a covered, outdoor area installed by the start of the autumn term.

Pupils will receive an induction on their first day of the new school year which will include details of the new school routines and hygiene requirements. Younger children and those with complex needs will be fully supported to understand the new ways in which the school must work.

I hope that this gives you a flavour of the measures that will be in place to allow us to safely return to school. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I will be in touch again before the start of the autumn term with further details.

Kind regards



Lisa Edwards