



### **Important Update – Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May**

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to you to provide further detail regarding Year 10 & 12 groups returning to school based learning after half term and the provision for other students, including those who are the children of Key Workers who require childcare provision.

This letter contains a lot of important information. A summary of any actions you need to take or important updates are below.

#### **Summary for Year 10 & Year 12:**

- Maintain social distancing at home.
- Introduce your child to the concept of the Family Bubble and the need to stay in the Family Bubble when at school. You can use this explainer video here <https://youtu.be/VG347gkQ5zM> .
- Note the start and finish time for your child's Family Bubble.
- Ensure your child has the correct uniform – details below.
- Refresh your child's understanding of our key school rules – details below.
- If students are not able to engage appropriately at school, respecting social distancing and the need for Family Bubbles to remain apart from each other then we will have no choice but to ask that child to engage with distance learning at home.
- If your child shows symptoms or tests positive for Covid-19 do not send your child to school and inform Miss C Dore on [c.dore@tsatrust.org.uk](mailto:c.dore@tsatrust.org.uk) .
- If a child feels unwell, they should alert one of their Family Bubble staff immediately.
- If a member of your child's bubble, student or staff, shows symptoms or tests positive for Covid-19 we will be asking everyone in that bubble to stay at home and self-isolate for 14 days.
- The latest **Government guidance is that wearing a face covering or face mask in schools or other education settings is not recommended**. Therefore, students and staff will not wear masks whilst in school.

**All other students will stay at home** and continue to engage with their distance learning in the way they have done up to now. Our Key Worker childcare provision will resume on 1<sup>st</sup> June and parents should continue to provide **24 hours notice** of their intention to use this provision. This provision will now be capped at 25 students and will be prioritised for **vulnerable children and then those children of key workers**.

**Please note, students in Years 10 & 12 will not be able to access childcare provision and be part of a bubble due to social distancing regulations.**

On Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June and Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June, we will be opening for 2 induction days for Year 10 and 12 (students will only be required to come in one of these days and will be allocated a day in a separate correspondence). Then on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June students will be expected to attend school two days a week depending on which bubble they have been placed in.

<b>Year Group/Bubble</b>	<b>Induction Day</b>	<b>Bubble Education Days</b>
<u>Year 10 Bubbles</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pink</li> <li>• Orange</li> <li>• Yellow</li> <li>• Red</li> </ul>	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	Monday & Tuesday, starting Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> June
<u>Year 12 Bubble</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Green &amp; Pink</li> </ul>		
<u>Year 10 Bubbles</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pink &amp; White</li> <li>• Orange &amp; White</li> <li>• Yellow &amp; White</li> <li>• Red &amp; Yellow</li> </ul>	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	Thursday & Friday, starting Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> June
<u>Year 12 Bubble</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blue &amp; Orange</li> </ul>		

I would like to reemphasise our belief that Child First = Child Safe = Adult Safe. This has been the key principle that has guided our planning since we began working on how to safely transition students back in to school based learning.

I appreciate that this will be a longer communication than usual but, given the circumstances, I believe you will appreciate having as much information as possible at this time.

**Reminder of guidance published by the government:**

As you know, whilst there has been a partial relaxing of the lockdown there are still significant restrictions that we must all abide by. This is important for us as the “Bubble” approach we have taken is aimed at minimising the interaction of people when they are in school. To complement this approach it is important that we all minimise contact with other people when outside of school. I have summarised the key restrictions that are currently in place below:

- During the emergency period, no person may leave or be outside of the place where they are living without reasonable excuse.
- People are allowed to meet one member of another household in a public space.
- The law bans public gatherings of more than two people, except in specific circumstances.
- Exercise “with one member of another household” in outdoor public spaces, such as parks or the countryside.
- There is no limit on where the exercise can take place, and the government made clear in its new guidance that people can drive into the countryside for walks or recreation.

### **Family Bubbles:**

To support social distancing and reduce the risk of unnecessary contact we are introducing Family Bubbles.

Each student will be part of a small, consistent Family Bubble with assigned staff who will only work with students in that Family Bubble. Students are, therefore, protected from contact with any other student outside their Family Bubble whilst at school.

How will the bubbles work?

- We have limited the Family Bubbles to 15 students.
- Your child will be issued with a coloured wristband at the beginning of each day and it must be disposed of at the end of each day.
- Bubbles will study together, take breaks / lunches together and they will only use facilities such as playgrounds and IT suites with this bubble.
- If your child usually has additional learning support they can access teachers outside of their bubble and this will be arranged by their Bubble Leader.

***You will be informed of your child's bubble in a separate letter, this will also include the times they should attend on their induction day.***

### **Opening Hours:**

In order to welcome our Year 10 & 12 students back to Goodwin Academy safely and ensure social distancing we have introduced a staggered timetable for students returning to school based learning. **Our overall school opening hours are: 8.30am – 2.30pm, however, there will be flexible start times to allow for safe entry to the school.** In addition, we are changing how students enter and leave the school.

From Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June, the arrival and departure times for different bubbles will be as follows:

Bubble	Arrival Time	Departure Time	Location	Entrance / Exit
Pink Pink & White	8.30am	1pm	Library	Hamilton Road Entrance- Kitchen Gates/Staircase C
Orange Orange & White	8.50am	1.20pm	Sixth Form Study	Mill Road Entrance/Staircase B
Yellow Yellow & White	9.10am	1.40pm	Room 20	Hamilton Road Entrance- Kitchen Gates/Staircase C
Red Red & Yellow	9.30am	2pm	Room 117	Hamilton Road Entrance- Kitchen Gates/Staircase C
Green & Pink Blue & Orange	10am	2.30pm	Sixth Form Common	Mill Road Entrance -Student Entrance/ Staircase A

### **The school day:**

Each Family Bubble will follow its own individual timetable to ensure it is always kept separated from any other Family Bubble.

These timetables will broadly follow these pattern of activities each day:

- **Year 10** - 1 hour of Maths, 1 hour of English, 2 hour of PSHE/study (to complete any work from Show My Homework) with 30 minutes' lunch. Remote learning for Science and option subjects will continue with the majority taking place on a Wednesday.
- **Year 12** – directed study with input from specialist Bubble staff with a 30 minute lunch.

On the days that students are not in school, they will be expected to continue with the tasks set on Show My Homework.

### **School Lunches:**

We will be ensuring social distancing measures are upheld in dining areas and are planning on staggered lunch breaks to ensure bubbles are kept isolated. Robust controls are being implemented in kitchens to ensure catering staff are social distancing whilst preparing and serving food and extra checks will be made to ensure our supplier is maintaining their high food safety standards.

We have agreed with Chartwells that the lunch menu can be simplified, there will be a main meal on offer daily and there will also be packaged Grab & Go items – salads, panini's, sandwiches, cake etc. Chartwells staff will serve each student using tongs and wearing gloves. Cutlery will be either pre wrapped or disposable and the cleaning of dining areas will take place after students and staff of each bubble have left the area.

These meals will be free of charge for students who are entitled to free school meals. If you would normally pay for your school lunches, this remains unchanged.



Until further notice all payments will be cashless, students will require their pin number to pay for their food as we will be suspending the thumb print technology. All balances will need to be topped up online.

Families entitled to receive free school meals will continue to receive the voucher scheme until further notice. If your child does access the in school offer this will be in addition to the voucher.

### **Uniforms:**

During this time, we recognise that students may have grown out of their uniform and replacing uniform items is a challenge given the circumstances. Therefore, we require Year 10 students to follow the uniform guidance as far as possible and for you to contact us if your child is unable to access a particular part of the school uniform. We will not be expecting students to wear a tie or blazer. Please help to keep their uniform clean and washed regularly to help maintain the highest standards of hygiene. The Uniform Code can be at <https://www.goodwinacademy.org.uk/our-school/academy-life/school-uniform/>

For Year 12, the dress code that can be found at <https://www.goodwinacademy.org.uk/curriculum/sixth-form/>

### **Face masks:**

The latest **Government guidance is that wearing a face covering or face mask in schools or other education settings is not recommended.** Furthermore, the government states that schools and other education or childcare settings should therefore not require staff, children and learners to wear face coverings. The majority of staff in education settings will not require PPE beyond what they would normally need for their work, even if they are not always able to maintain a distance of 2 metres from others.

Therefore, students and staff will not wear masks whilst in school.

### **School Rules:**

This has been an unusual time for us all and we have had to make many adjustments during lockdown. Children would have missed their friends and the structure their school environment brings through routine. As we move into the next stage and begin to reclaim some normality, we will be asking all our students to remember school rules and behave in a suitable manor within their bubbles.

We will expect students to maintain our core expectations on behaviour and these will be outlined to students during their induction day.

We must make it clear that our first priority is to keep our community safe as we transition back to school based learning. Therefore, **if a student is unable to engage appropriately at school, respecting social distancing and the need for Family Bubbles to remain apart from each other then**



**we will have no choice but to ask that child to engage with distance learning at home.** This is to ensure the safety of our whole school community.

**Keeping our community safe over time:**

Whilst we are studying within the Family Bubbles we will be following the Government self-isolation strategy. If a member of your child's bubble, student or staff, shows symptoms or tests positive for Covid-19 we will be asking everyone in that bubble to stay at home and self-isolate for 14 days.

**If your Child shows symptoms or tests positive for Covid-19 do not send your child to school and inform Miss C Dore on [c.dore@tsatrust.org.uk](mailto:c.dore@tsatrust.org.uk) .**

**If your child is at school and begins to show symptoms, then they must tell a member of staff in their bubble immediately. We will contact parents to alert them that their child is showing symptoms and ask them to collect their child immediately.**

These rules also apply if anyone in your household is affected. We are not medical professionals and we will be following the national advice. You can find information about symptoms [here](#).

Please note that if someone displays potentially Covid-19 symptoms but following a test is found not to have the virus then the members of the Family Bubble will be able to return to school.

**Where to look for further information**

We have launched today a dedicated website for information on our plans to return students safely to school.

The Thinking Schools Academy Trust is actively responding to ongoing developments with the Coronavirus outbreak so please use the links on this page for updated information on our response and what it will mean for you.

**FAQs and information: [www.tsatrust.org.uk/coronavirus](http://www.tsatrust.org.uk/coronavirus)**

We look forward to safely welcoming our Year 10 & 12 students back to school next term. We will keep under review our ability to safely accommodate students from other year groups going forward. However, this will only be done when we are confident it is safe to do so.

Stay safe and well.

Yours sincerely

**Mr S Smith**  
**Principal**