



Great Marlow School

HEADTEACHER: Mr K Ford

DEPUTY HEADTEACHERS

Mr G Pendlebury

Mr N Maguire

Bobmore Lane
Marlow
Bucks
SL7 1JE

Tel: 01628 483752

Fax: 01628 475852

info@gms.bucks.sch.uk

www.gms.bucks.sch.uk

Tuesday 7th July 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers

As I explained in my letter emailed on the 26th June, I am delighted to be able to give Year 9 students the opportunity to return to school for two days next week. The arrangements are as follows:

Monday 13th July and Tuesday 14th July

- Chiltern band A (Group A, details on email sent to students) and Marlow band (all students)

Wednesday 15th July and Thursday 16th July

- Chiltern band B (Group B, details on email sent to students) and Thames band (all students)

As you can see above we are dividing Year 9 in half and each half of Year 9 will be in school for two days next week. We will be dividing each half of the year in to 9 teaching groups which will mean class size groups of approximately 15 students. This will enable us to try and maintain a physical distance between students in their lessons, in line with the guidance for schools. The students will also remain in the same group of students for all of their sessions on both days. The students will be taught by subject specialists, for all their lessons, although, it is unlikely that they will be taught by their usual subject teacher.

The timetable for Year 9 is as follows:

8.25-8.35	Arrive via the Bobmore Lane Entrance
8.35 – 9.30	Lesson 1 – GCSE Option 1/GCSE Option 3
9.35-10.35	Lesson 2 – GCSE Option 2/GCSE Option 4
10.35-10.50	Supervised Break
10.50-11.50	Lesson 3 – English, Mathematics or Science
11.50-12.50	Lesson 4 – English, Mathematics or Science
12.50-13.15	Supervised Break/Lunch
13.15-14.15	Lesson 5 – English, Mathematics or Science
14.15-15.00	Lesson 6 - Physical Education
15.00	Depart School.

During lessons 1 and 2, students will do two of their option subjects on their first day and their other two option subjects on their second day in school. Students will all do Physical Education (PE) for the final 45 minutes of the afternoon, this PE session will be outdoors. The students will not be changing for PE and therefore it is important that all students wear trainers to school and clothing that is appropriate for participating in physical activity. Therefore, students do not need to wear school uniform or school PE kit to school. The PE sessions will be activities that will allow students to remain appropriately physically distant.

Students will need to bring their pencil case with appropriate writing and drawing equipment for the lessons. Students do not need to bring any books, as they will be given an exercise book to use for the two days. We will also take the opportunity to support students with the use of Microsoft Teams, particularly in their English lessons, they will be given laptops to support this activity.

There will be no catering facilities in school, so you will need to provide your son/daughter with a packed lunch and drinks for the day. They will have access to water fountains to refill their bottles. All students will need to take home any food waste and/or rubbish.

Students do not need to wear face masks in school and in fact, I am actively discouraging it in line with Government guidance for schools which suggests inappropriate use of face masks could increase the risk of infections.

Students will be actively encouraged to wash their hands regularly and use the numerous wall mounted and free standing hand sanitizer dispensers we have around the school.

For any student that travels to school on transport provided by the local authority, this transport will run as normal and students will be collected and dropped off at their usual points. Students travelling on this local authority transport are being encouraged to wear face masks, so please provide your son/daughter with a face mask or covering, if possible. The students travelling via local authority transport will be dropped at the Redgrave Sports Centre coach park.

Please can you ensure that you ask your sons/daughters to access the school site via the Bobmore Lane entrance, unless travelling via local authority transport. In addition, encourage them to physically distance from other students and the general public on their way to school. Year 9 students will be met on the school drive and reminded which group they have been allocated and the teaching room they need to go to for their first lesson. During their first lesson the timetable for the two days will be explained and they will be given a paper copy.

This plan to enable Year 9 to return to school next week for two days and the plans for the other year groups to return have been a significant logistical challenge. Now that the vast majority of teachers are in school and teaching there will be an impact upon our ability to provide the remote learning activities on line, in the same way as we have since the partial closure.

I am incredibly pleased that we are able to offer students in Year 9 the opportunity to return to school before the end of the summer term. As I clearly explained in my letter last week, it remains your decision as the parents/ carers whether your son(s)/daughter(s) attends the allocated days for their half of the year group. For those students that do attend I sincerely hope that it will be an enjoyable experience that will be as much about seeing friends, teachers and just being physically back in school as it will be about academic progress that can be achieved in two days.

A separate communication will be sent to the parents/ carers of the three priority groups for them to register for supervision for next week. These students will join their appropriate half of the year for the lessons outlined on the first page of this letter.

All students will be communicated their via their school email address, today Tuesday 7th July, to tell them which group they have been placed in for their two days in school. I would very much appreciate it if both students and parents accept the groups that they have been allocated and do not request group changes unless there is an exceptional reason. **Finally, please can you complete the survey, by 3.00pm on Thursday 9th July, via this [link](#) to indicate whether your son or daughter will be returning to school for their two days.**

Best wishes

Kevin Ford
Headteacher