



3 September 2021

RE: Start of Term Arrangements – September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you and your families are well. As we approach the end of the summer holiday, we are writing to provide information to help ensure a smooth start to the new term for students and staff. The 2020/21 school year saw a significant number of changes to the daily routines at Urmston Grammar School to mitigate against the risks of COVID-19. As we move to a world which learns to live with the virus, this letter outlines some of the arrangements which will be in place when students return to school. As ever we will closely follow government guidance, the most recent of which was updated on August 27th and can be found [here](#).

The following arrangements will **remain in place** at the start of term:

- Promotion of good hand hygiene with sanitiser stations throughout the school and in all classrooms.
- Regular cleaning of frequently touched surfaces and toilet facilities.
- Increased ventilation throughout the school building.
- After the on-site COVID-19 test before the start of term, students will be asked to continue taking twice weekly LFD tests at home. These will continue until at least the end of September when the government will release further guidance.

The following arrangements will **no longer be in place** however will remain part of our contingency framework should the climate dictate restrictions need to be reintroduced:

- Face coverings are no longer required for students or staff, though we **strongly encourage** everybody to wear these in communal areas, including corridors, where possible.
- Designated entrances and toilet facilities for different year groups.
- Students are no longer confined to year group 'bubbles'.
- Staggered lunch times and staggered end to the school day.

In addition, our PE changing rooms will return to use. This means when students are timetabled PE they should come into school wearing their full school uniform and bring with their PE kit to change into during the lesson.

If a student's LFD test shows they are positive for COVID-19 please arrange for them to take a confirmatory PCR test at a test centre as soon as possible. It remains the case that students who test



Urmston Grammar

A Science and Language
College with Academy
status



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positive need to self-isolate for 10 days. Students identified as close contacts will be requested to take a PCR test at a test centre as soon as possible, however, will not need to self-isolate whilst awaiting results. This means students can continue going to school as usual and only need to isolate if their test indicates they are positive.

Please be aware that this year all contact tracing will be conducted by NHS Track and Trace and schools will only be asked to assist in extreme circumstances. This means if your son/daughter tests positive, please contact NHS Track and Trace to provide the names of close contacts. Similarly, if your son/daughter is identified as a close contact you will be contacted by NHS Track and Trace rather than by school. Urmston Grammar will continue to provide remote learning for students who are self-isolating but are well enough to continue studying.

All the details of this letter will be explained in full to students when they return to school where they will be able to ask questions and seek clarification from their form tutor if necessary. A copy of our updated COVID-19 risk assessment can be found on the school website [here](#) should you require further detail of the measures we have in place. We will of course keep all parents and carers informed as and when there are any changes to our school protocols.

We look forward to welcoming Year 7 and Year 12 students at 8.30am on Monday 6th September and all other year groups at 8.30am on Tuesday 7th September.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs R S Wall
Headteacher

Mr T Kennedy-Fowler
Deputy Headteacher



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