



**Ashton
Community
Science
College**

Headteacher: Miss S Asquith BA Hons, MA, NPQH

Aldwych Drive, Ashton,
Preston PR2 1SL

Tel: 01772 513002

Web: www.ashtoncsc.lancs.sch.uk

E-mail: enquiries@ashtoncsc.com

'a school to be proud of'

July 2020

To the Parents/Carers of students who will be joining the School in September 2020

Admission Arrangements Update: Changes to Uniform Requirements and other information

I recently wrote to you with lots of information in advance of when your child starts with us in September. This included details of the form and house your child will be in and also explained that all children would return to school in PE kit for the first half term.

However, as you are aware, the guidance changes frequently and following the latest Government guidance issued on 2nd July, the uniform element has now been amended. As a result of the amendment all schools are encouraged to return to their normal school uniform policy at the start of the Autumn term. The guidance states "uniforms do not need to be cleaned any more often than usual, nor do they need to be cleaned using methods which are different from normal." As social distancing measures in school have also been reduced, there is now adequate provision for students to change for PE.

We will therefore now be expecting all students to arrive in the **normal school uniform**. We are aware that some of you may still need to purchase items in light of this new guidance and I would remind you to have the details of the house your child has been allocated when you purchase the school jumper.

One of our suppliers has forwarded on to us a leaflet which details various offers and payment options. This is attached for your information, but we would state that we do not endorse this particular retailer over any other that stocks our uniform, it is simply that they are the only one who has passed this information on.

We are in the process of finalising our plans for a full return in September in accordance with the latest DFE guidance and these will be placed on the school website in due course to reassure parents/carers and students that our school is a safe place. The full guidance can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>

Please note that year 7 will return on **Wednesday 2nd September at 8.30am**. They should assemble in the yard at the rear of the school, which they access either via the back gate (it is the yard immediately to their left on entry) or via the science yard if coming via the front gate. Staff will be on hand to direct new students so please don't worry. They will be



met by Mrs Barrow, Mrs Barker and the year 7 tutors, who will accompany them into the building and support with the routines and questions that inevitably arise on the first day.

In order to implement the DFE guidance and keep students in separate bubbles in school, it has been necessary to implement staggered start and finish times for all year groups. Year 7 will start each day with **arrival from 8.20 am for an 8.30 am start and will finish at a slightly earlier time of 2.45 pm**. There will be no after school provision in the first instance, although we will keep this under review. Students should not arrive before 8.20 am and unfortunately we do not have any facility to accommodate older siblings until their designated start time, so ask that year 7 enter the site alone. Furthermore, we would be grateful if parents could drop children off in the car park if coming in a vehicle or at the gate if walking. Staff will be available at the gates to respond to any queries you may have, but we need to ask that parents do not enter the site unless absolutely necessary to minimise footfall and therefore the possibility of the spread of infection.

Break and lunchtimes will also be reduced slightly in length and staggered to minimise contact between bubbles. In order to move all year groups through the dining room we will be serving "grab food" only. There will be a choice of hot and cold savoury food, drinks, and cold sweets such as biscuits and cakes. Children are welcome to bring packed lunches, which they may prefer in the early days of settling in. Food from the dining room is paid for using the cashless system, and your child will be given their PIN and shown how to use this when they start. Money can be paid by cash into the re-valuer machine in school, or online using parentpay. Please note the machines do not give change and school does not offer any facility to do this either.

For your information should you have older children at school, the start and finish times and yard/door of entry of the year groups are:

- Year 7 – 8.20am arrival for an 8.30am entry into the building **via door 4 only**. 2.45 pm departure
- Year 8 - 8.30am arrival for an 8.40am entry into the building **via door 2 only**, 2.40pm departure
- Year 9 - 8.35am arrival for an 8.45am entry into the building **via door 5 only**, 3.00pm departure
- Year 10 - 8.45am arrival for an 8.50am entry into the building **via door 4 only**, 3.05pm finish
- Year 11 - 8.40am arrival for an 8.50am entry into the building **via door 2 only**. Finish time at the earliest for year 11 will be 3.10pm but we are intending to offer additional sessions to allow year 11 to bridge some of the gaps caused by the prolonged lockdown. These sessions will run from 3.10pm – 4.00pm

You will see from the above list that staggering start and finish times has been a logistical challenge and we need your support in making this work for the safety of all children and staff. We must minimise any cross over of year groups, in accordance with the DFE guidance. It is therefore imperative that children arrive on time, and present to the door allocated to them. Arriving late compromises our ability to retain the integrity of the year group bubbles and must be avoided.

In an earlier letter, I explained that we could not lend equipment due to current guidance and gave a list of essential equipment that all children are required to have. Equipment packs are still available and can be ordered via parentpay, ready for collection on the 2nd September. **I would like to add a reading book to this list of essential equipment.** We have purchased a number of new library books to supplement our current catalogue but there are restrictions on how long books must remain untouched once they have been used. We operate a daily reading session and so for the first week at least, ask that your child brings a book of their own from home into school so they can take part in these daily sessions.

A final reminder that we do have a special transition area on our website, with a number of links and resources to support your child in closing any learning gaps or consolidating their learning from year 6. There is a facility on there to contact us with any queries. Please don't hesitate to use this should you have any concerns, questions or matters you wish to discuss with us prior to term starting in September. Mrs Barrow is on hand throughout the summer so please use this facility if you need to.

Here is the link: <https://www.ashtoncsc.lancs.sch.uk/transition>

We are looking forward to welcoming all our students back in September, and especially our year 7s, who will be the youngest, newest and likely most nervous members of our school family but please be assured - as members of our family we will do our utmost to look after them.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S. Asquith". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Miss S Asquith
Headteacher