



Alston Moor Federation

Alston Primary School

Nenthead Primary School

Samuel King's School

**Working Together – Achievement
For All**

June 11th 2020

Dear Parents/carers,

Thank you very much for replying to my last letter and informing us of your decision on whether your child will or won't be returning to school from June 22nd. I am now in a position to write to you with further details of the face to face contact we can offer to our GCSE 2021 students.

Online learning will continue to be set by the teachers for any students who are not returning to school for face to face contact and it is crucial that these students continue to complete the set work at home. This is imperative for the new option subjects so students don't miss key pieces of work at the beginning of these new courses.

Samuel Kings School reopens for our current Y9 and Y10 students from w/c **June 22nd**. We will be open **Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday** mornings between **10.15am - 11.30am**. Each student will have one lesson per week of each of their option subjects. Teachers will teach the lesson and set tasks to be completed at home before the next lesson. The face to face contact is to support home learning and the expectation from government is that home learning is still the main form of education for secondary students. Below is the timetable for the lessons:

Monday 10.15-11.30am	BTEC Drama (Performing Arts) GCSE Art GCSE History (half of the group)
Tuesday 10.15-11.30am	GCSE Design Technology BTEC Animal Care GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition GCSE Statistics GCSE Business Studies (half of the group)
Wednesday 10.15-11.30am	GCSE History (half of the group) GCSE Business Studies (half of the group)

The GCSE History and Business Studies groups are high in numbers and due to social distancing guidelines, we are unable to have the full group in at one time. We have therefore split the group and will notify parents of the half each student is in via Parentmail. This decision has largely been based on school transport.

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The Department for Education guidelines below set out the procedures for reopening schools for limited face to face contact with GCSE students. We have followed these guidelines to reduce the risk to students, their families and the staff. Below the links, are the key points for students and families to be aware of prior to coming back in to school. It is crucial that all students adhere to these guidelines when they are in school.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preparing-for-the-wider-opening-of-schools-from-1-june/planning-guide-for-secondary-schools>

Key points:

- Any student who is displaying any of the three main symptoms of Covid-19 (high temperature, new continuous cough, loss of smell or taste) or if any family member is displaying symptoms, they must stay at home and be tested. If they have come in to contact with anyone with symptoms, they must also self-isolate. Please inform school if any student or family member tests positive for Covid-19 or is displaying symptoms.
- If any student starts showing symptoms of Covid-19 while they are in school, they will be immediately isolated and a parent contacted
- There will be a maximum of 8 students in each 'bubble' of GCSE option group and they will be sat 2m apart in line with social distancing. This group will be a consistent group with the same teacher and there will be no mixing of groups
- Classrooms will be well-ventilated and students asked to sit at the same table and seat each lesson
- Students will be asked to sanitise their hands as they enter their classroom and as they leave. They will also be asked to sanitise their table before they leave. Teachers will ensure the tables are sanitised before the lesson
- PPE will be in all classrooms and there is an enhanced cleaning schedule every night
- Students are asked to bring their own equipment in to school as there can be no sharing of resources
- Face coverings are not recommended in education settings however this will be student choice
- Students are only allowed on school premises for the agreed contact time. There are no breaktimes or lunchtimes

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- There will be one secondary toilet available for emergency use
- All students will be expected to be in full, clean uniform
- All students will be asked to use the main entrance on Church Rd where they will be staggered in to the building and signed in

School transport

Wrights Buses and Weardale Private Hire are available for school transport and are aware of the changes to the timings of the day.

Wrights buses will collect students at 10.00am at the garage in Nenthead.

Please contact Paul at Weardale Private Hire to make arrangements for pick up times for Weardale students.

Secondary students will be asked to wear a face covering on school transport as per government guidelines for public transport. Please ensure your child has a face covering to wear.

The buses will be cleaned regularly and all students will be asked to sanitise their hands as they get on and off the buses. The buses will be well-ventilated but no air conditioning is permitted. Numbers of students will be limited and there will be an attempt to keep them at a safe distance from each other.

I appreciate this is going to be quite a different way of working and learning but please be assured that the safety of all of our students and our staff, is our main priority. The face to face contact will be key in making a positive start to the new GCSEs and the teachers are really looking forward to seeing the students back in school again.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me on stimmons@alston.cumbria.sch.uk.

Best wishes,

Sally Timmons

Acting Headteacher