

Phased re-opening of School – Parents Q and A

When will Queensbury school open to pupils?

We are working towards opening our provision on the week beginning the 15th of June, this is a provisional date and can only be confirmed once the government has met all five pillars.

Who will be the priority groups for Queensbury School?

Using the government guidelines, we have been able to identify our priority groups as key worker children, vulnerable children, current year 10 GCSE students and our SLD students.

My child is in the priority group but I am reluctant to send them back into school?

We will only open school when it is safe to do so and when we have robust safety measures in place. Please discuss any concerns you have with your child's form tutor when they make their welfare calls. Ultimately, sending your child back into school is your decision. The DFE has said that parents will not receive fines or lose their child's place at school if they do not send their children to school.

How will Queensbury School ensure students maintain social distance?

We will have classes of no more than 6 students and classrooms and spaces which are marked with workstations and social distancing signage. Students will be in set classrooms for the majority of time and there will be little movement beyond these spaces, when it does occur it will be carefully managed. Students spend break and lunch with the same group.

How will Queensbury ensure that those attending are well and safe to attend on a day to day basis?

All students and staff will have their temperature checked on entry, anyone with a high temperature and or other symptoms will be isolated. We will ask staff to return home and we will expect if this happens that parents or carers collect their child from school. If a child is taken ill during the day, the same procedure would also be followed.

How will my child travel to school?

If their normal way of travelling to school is through school transport, we will work with the service to arrange this. Travel assist will ensure there is social distancing on buses.

If students travel to school via public transport we would encourage alternative arrangements such as walking where possible, riding a bike or car.

If a child forgets to social distance will they be told off?

We will work with the child to explain the importance of social distancing and would appreciate if you could support us with this. If a child is unable to understand or

maintain social distancing our risk assessments should mean that we are aware of this and have been able to use PPE to ensure safety for all.

Where a child is deliberately breaking school rules and social distancing rules and or displaying poor behaviour we would have to review and or even withdraw the offer of a place.

Will all those in school be required to wear PPE?

The Government guidance for implementing protective measures in education and childcare settings, states: "Wearing a face covering or face mask in schools or other education settings is not recommended."

The guidance adds that face coverings should not be worn by anyone who may not be able to handle PPE as directed, for example, young children, or those with special educational needs or disabilities, as it may increase the risk of transmission.

However, if a child does become unwell with coronavirus symptoms and staff cannot maintain a two metre distance, PPE can be worn by the staff member caring for the child until the child can return home. PPE will also be worn by staff where there is a group of students who find maintaining social distancing challenging and or where there are students who may spit for example.

What control measures will be in place to reduce the risk of infection?

Infection will be reduced by minimising contact between students and maintaining social distancing. Groups will consist of no more than 6 students. There will be robust checks on entry and student and staff will be washing hands regularly. In addition to this, students will also be assigned to work stations and areas will have regular deep cleans and where necessary staff will be using PPE.

Will my child follow their usual timetable and be taught by their usual teacher?

To maintain safety, the curriculum on offer at school will be focussed on the delivery of the core subjects. Students will not be following their usual timetable and will have a reduced number of teachers to maintain 'class bubbles'. On line learning will continue via the platforms already available and we would urge students to continue to use Purple Mash to access the wider curriculum. Teachers will continue to set work for students on Purple Mash as the majority of our students will continue to learn from home.

If you have any further questions, please speak to your point of contact during the weekly welfare calls or contact the school via email using the address below. Thank you.

Enquiry@queensbury.bham.sch.uk