



Wigston Academies Trust

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19th August 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

I hope that you and your family have had a good summer break and have managed to stay healthy and safe. We are really looking forward to welcoming all of our students, including our new Year 7 and 12 students in the coming week and working with you and them during the year.

Return to School and College

To help and support our new Year 7 and Year 12 students and to provide our students with a chance to return to school and college after the summer we are staggering the start of the Autumn term.

Wednesday 25th August

Year 7 return at 8.35am (doors open 8.30am) and finish at 2.55pm.

Year 13 induction day 8.30am - 2.55pm.

Thursday 26th August

Year 7 in at 8.35am - 2.55pm

Year 8 in at 10.30am - 2.55pm

Year 9 in at 11.20am - 2.55pm

Year 10 in at 11.20am - 2.55pm

Year 11 in at 11.20am - 2.55pm

Year 12 in at 8.35am - 2.55pm

Year 13 working virtually from home

Friday 27th August

Year 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 students all in at normal times (8.35am - 2.55pm).

Year 13 working virtually from home

Monday 30th August

Bank Holiday.

Tuesday 31st August

All students back in at normal times (8.35am - 2.55pm).

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our students for their results this year and wish them well for their futures. They have worked so hard and faced the challenges of the pandemic in a positive manner. Well done to them all and thank you for the role that you have played, as you know we can never under-estimate the impact that parents and carers have on the success of their children.

We are all hopeful that this year is a little more normal with fewer disruptions. However, we are still in the midst of a global pandemic and there are still things that schools can and should be doing to balance protecting their students and their staff whilst ensuring the best educational opportunities and experiences.

We have reviewed our risk assessment and protective measures in response to the latest government guidance and have consulted with Public Health England and the Local Authority to ensure that we return to school and college as safely and smoothly as possible. This letter outlines the main actions and guidance for the return to school and college.

Testing

As you are already aware we are providing students with the opportunity to be tested as they return to school and college. Students do not need to wear school uniform and need to go to the Site A doors at the allotted time (see chart below). If you wish your child to be tested please ensure you have provided consent for testing by following this link to our [School Lateral Flow Testing and Consent Letter](#) which can be found on our website.

As before, testing is voluntary and we also understand that some of you will be testing at home.

Date	Students come into school to be tested and return home after completion	Testing Time	Students in school following a negative test for face to face teaching
Monday 23 rd August	Year 7 Year 12 & 13	9am - 12pm 12pm - 3pm	
Tuesday 24 th August	Year 8 Year 9	9am - 11.30am 11.30am - 2pm	
Wednesday 25 th August	Year 10 Year 11	9am - 11.30am 11.30am - 2pm	Years 7 and 13
Thursday 26 th August			Years 7 to 12

- We are also asking all students and staff to test twice weekly, to ensure any asymptomatic cases are identified and reduce both transmission and infection rates. Please contact reception or email the admin email addresses if a student tests positive at home.
- We ask that anyone presenting with symptoms should not attend school or college and should self-isolate, book a PCR Test and await the result. Further guidance is available by following this link: www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/main-symptoms/

Safety Measures

- We will continue with our enhanced cleaning regime throughout the school day, especially in high use/contact areas.
- Hand hygiene measures will continue to be in place - students will be expected to sanitise their hands frequently.
- We will continue to follow the ventilation guidance.
- Students and staff will all be encouraged to wear face coverings in crowded spaces in school, this will typically mean students are recommended to wear face coverings for example when lining up for the dining halls and in corridors.
- There is still the expectation that face covering will be worn on public transport and service buses.
- Face coverings are no longer recommended to be worn in classrooms although any student wishing to wear a face covering throughout the day is welcome to do so. We ask that it is ideally plain and that good mask hygiene is followed.
- Students and staff will be encouraged to maintain social distancing where possible.
- Movement around the campus has been reviewed to ensure less crowding of corridors and spaces.
- Lunch times and break times are now staggered to facilitate less crowding and mixing of students.
- The provision for remote learning will remain in place for any students who are self-isolating or affected by COVID. Clearly this will also be available for all students absent for other authorised reasons too.
- Track and Trace of close contacts, under the new guidance is to be run solely by the NHS. However, we ask that you inform us of any positive tests.
- There is no need for close contacts to self-isolate, however the guidance is that they should take a PCR test and we ask that this is followed.

As always we are currently responding to the latest guidance and will continue to respond to any further changes or advice and keep you informed.

Over the course of the pandemic your support and the response of students has been a major factor in us being able to take on the challenges of the virus. As we start a new year I am confident that we will all continue to work together to ensure that our schools and community provide the best possible care, support and education.

I wish you all well for a successfully happy and healthy year.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Wilson'.

Mr M Wilson
Headteacher
Wigston Academy
Wigston College