

RETURN TO SCHOOL

Firstly, apologies for the mistake in the session times for Years 7-10 in the newsletter last week, which said that Session 3 lasts from 13.30-14.10. This was an error and should have read 13.30-15.10.

Your parents will have received a letter this week telling you which slot you need to attend. This letter also tells you which room your lessons will be in. I'm afraid we CANNOT move slots to accommodate friendship group requests as the number in each slot has been carefully planned to make sure we are following health and safety guidelines. When you arrive at school, you are not permitted to congregate on the quad or in a common room area, you need to go straight to that room. You will not be moving around the school, you will be based in that room for the 4 weeks. Once your slot has finished, you will need to quickly leave the school site before the next group arrive.

When you get to school you will immediately see that it looks different. There is a one-way system, clearly indicated by signs, to prevent congestion and enable social distancing to occur. When you get to school there will be members of staff on all the entrance points directing you, so don't worry too much about that at the moment.

The classrooms have all been updated so that we can follow the 2-metre rule. Each classroom will have a maximum of 11 pupils and 1 teacher in it. You will be with your form tutor and one other member of staff for the 4-week period. When you get to your room, you will line up outside and wait to be admitted. At the entrance, there will be a sanitisation station and you will be expected to sanitise your hands. You'll also be expected to do that when you leave the room. All of the worksheets, booklets etc that you need for your session will already be on your desk when you arrive. You will not move from your workstation during your session. Each room will be deep cleaned when a group leaves and before another group arrives. If anybody becomes ill during a session they will be taken out of the room and taken to a different part of the school whilst they wait for a parent to collect them.

The canteen will not be open and there will be no breaks as you are only in school for one session. Please bring a bottle of water with you. The Technology block toilets will be open and will be regularly cleaned throughout the day, although some sinks will be blocked off to ensure pupils follow social distancing. You do not have to wear school uniform for this 4-week period, just wear something practical and comfortable that you can wash at the end of each day. You are not required to wear a mask, but if you wish to then we completely understand and that's fine.

It's really important for you to understand that **social distancing must be observed in school at all times**. There will be no more than 11 pupils in a classroom, with 1 or 2 members of staff. This is non-negotiable, and I'm afraid anybody misbehaving or failing to adhere to social distancing will be immediately removed from the classroom, sent home and told not to attend again until September. You need to take responsibility both good hygiene and good behaviour to ensure the return to school is as smooth and enjoyable as possible for all of us.

To minimise any risk, we are not permitted to share any equipment. Therefore, we strongly advise that you bring your own electronic device with you that you have been working on at home. If you are sharing a device or do not have one that is portable, you need to make sure you bring a fully stocked pencil case, as sharing pens is not permitted. We have school laptops that can be used, and you'll need to wipe them down at the beginning and end of each session. You do not need to bring any exercise books with you. You will be permitted to use your phone as a device if one is required in a lesson, but only as directed by your teacher.

The school buses will run at the beginning and end of the school day, but not for the sessions in-between. However, the clear advice from the local Authority is that it is safer not to use the buses and it is much better to walk or cycle to school or get a lift with a family member you live with. If you get a lift, your parents will not be able to drive into the school grounds to drop you off, as the gates will be locked. They will need to drop you off somewhere safe that is near to school and you will need to walk the rest of the way.

I completely understand that this is a lot of information to take in. School will look and feel very different, but we will all get used to it quickly enough and what's important is that we safely get back into school and back to learning. We're all looking forward to seeing you very much after such a long time away!

DIGITAL TIP OF THE WEEK

Please take a look at Mr Head's digital tip of the week in the attachment. This week it's all about replying to emails.

HOW CAN I ACCESS HELP AND SUPPORT IF I'M STRUGGLING?

All of the different avenues of help and support that we have offered/signposted in previous newsletters are detailed in the attachment. Please familiarise yourselves with these and access any you think would be useful.

Don't forget to also follow the Wellbeing Twitter page @RCSWellbeing to access lots of useful advice and support. There's some lovely motivational pictures being shared there to keep you going and show you what members of the Radyr community are doing to keep their spirits up!

Please find attached pictures of some scrumptious dishes our year 7 pupils have been cooking for Technology. They look delicious!

Finally, check out some more of the fantastic Art work our pupils have been completing at home on Instagram @radyrart

You'll get another one of these newsletters next Friday to help you prepare for the coming week.

Until then, take care and stay safe!

Miss Robins

