



MARLING
SCHOOL

Headteacher: Dr Stuart Wilson
stuart.wilson@marling.gloucs.sch.uk

MARLING SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM
CAINSCROSS ROAD, STROUD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE GL5 4HE
01453 762251 | adminoffice@marling.gloucs.sch.uk | www.marling.school

June 2020

Dear Parents, Carers and Students of Years 10 and 12,

On 24 May 2020, the Prime Minister announced that secondary schools should plan on the basis that from the week commencing 15 June, they could invite Years 10 and 12 pupils back into school for some face-to-face support with their teachers. Government guidance was published the following day and on 28 May, we were told to go ahead on this basis.

The government guidance makes it clear that schools can have 25% of the Year 10 and Year 12 cohort in school at any one time and that face-to-face support is supplementary to remote education that remains the predominant mode of teaching during this term for pupils in these year groups.

In terms of the way that schools can operate safely with pupils, the guidance reiterates the importance of good personal hygiene and cleaning but also goes on to say that schools should be:

- Minimising contact and mixing, as far as possible, by keeping pupils in small groups for face-to-face support and keeping those groups as consistent as possible whilst in school. It does say that the range of subjects taught in secondary schools means that some mixing may be unavoidable to provide pupils with face-to-face support from subject teachers. Brief, transitory contact, such as passing in a corridor, is considered low risk
- Altering the school environment by changing classroom layouts so desks are further apart, dividing groups into different classrooms or using larger spaces
- Practicing social distancing
- Ensuring that the use of public transport to travel to and from school is minimised as far as possible, especially in peak times and that the start and end of days can be staggered

In light of the most recent guidance issued to schools, we have developed a plan and conducted a full risk assessment (published on the School website along with a Return to School manual) that will allow us to provide some face-to-face contact for Years 10 and 12.

Our priority in developing these plans is to make the in-school experience as impactful as possible, giving time with the student's own subject teacher wherever possible.

A broad overview of this plan is shown below. Each week you will receive a personalised communication outlining which day your son or daughter will be invited into school, as well as the room they will be based in and the timings of their day. Our plan is to place the students in single groups on the day and stagger any movement of the groups to minimise contact with their peers. They will remain in the same group during that day and be socially distancing within the group although they may get input from more than one teacher. On their next visit (the following week), they will be with a different group according to their subject class, but again, they will stay in that group for the allocated time in school. By using this model of student 'bubbles', as well as social distancing, we can maximise safety.

Year 12:

The Year 12 curriculum operates on four subject option blocks. In order to provide students with the opportunity to see their own Year 12 teachers, each option block has been allocated a week, with individual subjects within that block spread across that week. Students will be invited to come in one day per week on three of the four weeks to study

Raising Aspirations, Inspiring Excellence, Succeeding Together

Marling School is part of Cotswold Beacon Academy Trust, registered in England and Wales no. 7692339, registered office Cainscross Road, Stroud, GL5 4HE



one of their A level subjects and on that day will be timetabled for two 1 hour 40-minute sessions for that subject, separated by a 20-minute break. Students should not leave site during this 20-minute break. Where students have two teachers in a particular subject, it is our intention that they will see each of their teachers for one session. Where students only have one teacher, then both sessions would be taken by that teacher. The order of the subject blocks is shown below. Timings of the day will be staggered to minimise social contact. On each day that students are in school they will be allocated to either Group 1, Group 2 or Group 3. This group will determine the start and finish times of their day as outlined below:

W/B 15th June: Block D	W/B 22nd June: Block B	W/B 29th June: Block A	W/B 6th July: Block C
Group 1: 09:10 – 12:50	Group 1: 09:10 – 12:50	Group 1: 09:10 – 12:50	Group 1: 09:10 – 12:50
Group 2: 09:30 – 13:10	Group 2: 09:30 – 13:10	Group 2: 09:30 – 13:10	Group 2: 09:30 – 13:10
Group 3: 09:50 – 13:30	Group 3: 09:50 – 13:30	Group 3: 09:50 – 13:30	Group 3: 09:50 – 13:30

Year 10:

For the first three weeks, our focus for Year 10 will be on the core curriculum of English, Mathematics and Science; further information about how the final two weeks will be organised will follow. Students will be invited in for one day in each of these weeks and will focus on one subject during that day and be seeing their own subject teachers. Timings of the day will be staggered to minimise social contact. On each day that students are in school they will be allocated to either Group 1, Group 2, Group 3 or Group 4. This group will determine the start and finish times of their day as outlined below:

W/B 15th June: Mathematics	W/B 22nd June: English	W/B 29th June: Science
Group 1: 09:00 – 12:20	Group 1: 09:00 – 12:20	Group 1: 09:00 – 14:10
Group 2: 09:20 – 12:40	Group 2: 09:20 – 12:40	Group 2: 09:20 – 14:30
Group 3: 09:40 – 13:00	Group 3: 09:40 – 13:00	Group 3: 09:40 – 14:50
Group 4: 10:00-13:20	Group 4: 10:00-13:20	Group 4: 10:00 – 15:10

In the Mathematics and English weeks, students will be scheduled for two 90-minute sessions with their subject teacher, separated by a 20-minute break. For the Science week, students will be scheduled a single 90-minute session with each of their three Science teachers.

Access to the site:

When students arrive at the site, they should do so via the main school gates on Cainscross Road by School House (not the ones by the Main School Hall). Students should not use Downfield Road or try to access the site from there. They should then proceed straight to their allocated classroom, following all signage and the marked one-way system and operating with social distancing. On entry to any building they should use the hand sanitiser. When they arrive at their classroom they should go straight in and sit down at the table furthest from the door and wait for others to arrive. Students will have a reminder of safety measures at the start of each day. Students should be dropped off outside of school; parents/carers should not drive into the school. Please try to ensure that your child arrives no more than 15 minutes before their scheduled time. If your child is using public transport, please make sure you read the latest government guidance and are prepared accordingly: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-transport-and-travel-guidance>

Food:

Students should bring all snacks and drinks with them for the day. There will be no provision in the Dining Hall.

Uniform:

Students in Yr10 are not required to wear school uniform. Sixth Form students should adhere to the principles and ethos of the published dress code and ensure they are appropriate for the workplace. All students to ensure a regular change of clothes as repeated use of the same clothing is contrary to advice.

Equipment:

Please make sure that all students have the equipment they need for the day including pens, pencils, rulers, calculators etc. Students can bring in their phones as per normal. Laptops and tablets can also be brought in but remain the sole responsibility of the students. Charging points are not available in classrooms.

The School Office: Closed to parent visits

The school office is closed to visitors. If you need to inform the school or a particular member of staff of any important messages, then please do so through the following means:

Telephone:

Main school: 01453 762251

Email the school office: reception@marling.gloucs.sch.uk

Sixth Form: 01453 760156

Email the Sixth Form office: info@marlingsixthform.org

Illness:

If your child is suffering from sickness in anyway, then please ring into school in the normal way. If your child is showing symptoms of COVID-19, then you need to inform the school and follow government guidelines. If a child shows signs of COVID-19 symptoms, whilst at school, then they will be isolated from the other children and parents will be contacted immediately. Please collect your child without delay. Although the government has said it is not necessary, the school will support any parent who wishes for their child to wear PPE (to include protective gloves or mask) during school hours. Likewise, there may be some staff that choose to do so.

Attendance:

During this time, parents will not be penalised if they decide to keep their child at home. However, if your child has been invited into school and is not attending, please phone and report the absence, as we have to return daily attendance data to the DfE. Please be aware that there will be no requirement on staff to deliver a live lesson or Google Meet to those students who choose not to attend their allocated sessions.

Behaviour:

Students are expected to follow all guidance regarding hygiene and social distancing. Expectations regarding in-class behaviour and attitude to learning are the same as during normal school opening. An addendum to the behaviour policy can be found on the school website.

Reminders for students:

Please remember, when on site, you must:

- Use hand sanitiser as soon as you arrive at school
- Follow social distancing guidelines (2m) at all times
- Follow the marked one-way system, including the use of up-stairs and down-stairs
- Wash hands (20 seconds) or use hand sanitiser frequently
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze, wash your hands afterwards
- Put any used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards
- Not touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are not clean
- Tell an adult if you are experiencing symptoms of coronavirus
- Not share equipment where it can be avoided
- Follow any additional instructions

Collection of guidance for educational settings on gov.uk:

All the latest updates and guidance on the government's response to COVID-19 related to educational settings can be seen here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-schools-and-other-educational-settings>

Newly published and recently updated guidance:

- [Preparing for the wider opening of schools from 1 June](#) (updated 4 June)
- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): initial teacher training \(ITT\)](#) (updated 4 June)
- [Initial teacher training \(ITT\): criteria and supporting advice](#) (updated 4 June)
- [Higher education: reopening buildings and campuses](#) (published 3 June)
- [Actions for schools during the coronavirus outbreak](#) (updated 3 June)
- [What parents and carers need to know about schools and other education settings during the coronavirus outbreak](#) (updated 2 June)
- [Providing apprenticeships during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#) (updated 2 June)
- [Critical workers who can access schools or educational settings](#) (updated 1 June)
- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): implementing protective measures in education and childcare settings](#) (updated 1 June)
- [Actions for educational and childcare settings to prepare for wider opening from 1 June 2020](#) (updated 1 June)

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for continuing support and understanding during these challenging times.

Yours sincerely



Dr Stuart Wilson
Headteacher