



Head Teacher Weekly Update 3 September 2020



I hope that everyone is well and have had an excellent holiday. We are now ready to return to full time education and we are all looking forward to seeing the students from Wednesday and Thursday next week. We have two training days on the Monday and Tuesday, so all of our staff are fully prepared for the new term and the new procedures that are required to re-open.

Risk Assessment and Parental Booklet

The risk assessment and parental booklet have been updated this week and reflect a lot of new guidance and information that has been passed to the school recently. There is new information on the safe return of vulnerable staff and students to school, how to deal with any outbreaks of Covid 19 and how the track and trace programme will work in school if we have suspected cases. Please read the guidance as best you can, as we realise there is a lot of information. These guides are there to support everyone and we will be reviewing our procedures constantly to ensure that we are all safe and that the school follows the necessary guidance to ensure a safe start to the term. Both documents can be found on our school website.

School Transport

From Wednesday 9 September the school transport bus will only be available for our new year 7 students during the first two weeks. This will allow us to monitor the transport situation and see whether we can safely increase the year group capacity as we progress through the term. There will be a member of staff on board the bus for the first week, to supervise safe entry and allocate seating as the students enter the bus and be there to help and support our new students. A member of staff will also be on duty to ensure the safe entry on to the bus at the end of the school day. We would request that students are at the place of pick up 5 minutes before the allotted time. A full transport survey will be undertaken once the students return to school to assist us with planning.



Please read the message from Nexus, our school bus operator.

As we approach the new term it is a daunting time for the incoming year 7 students not knowing what they will encounter. This year has been made even more problematic due to the Covid - 19 pandemic and with the majority of schools being unable to conduct the yearly intake inductions prior to the summer break. Below we have set a number of helpful points that should be shared with students and parents. School Transport as from September will operate a close door system that will only allow students to board and no members of the public will be permitted to travel (other than some primary school services). By doing this and under DfE and DfT regulations we can now increase capacity to a full seated load to approximately 60 passengers on Doubles depending on vehicle configuration spec. We

would still encourage you to promote walking/cycling or any other mode of accessing school wherever possible to alleviate the pressure on school buses.

Throughout the first few days of term we will monitor service capacity and try to pre-empt overloading problems and provide additional services wherever possible. As with all new terms I ask for patience and understanding to be shown as punctuality of services may be hindered by new students/drivers on new routes in the first week or so. We will endeavour to provide our usual high standard of service and with your assistance hopefully we can achieve a safe School Transport provision.

- School Transport will be restricted to students only (No Adults allowed).
- Capacity will be a full seated load with all students to face forward and remain seated at all times.
- Over 11's must **wear a Face Covering** (other than with a medical exemption).
- Ask students to sanitise prior to boarding and after they disembark.
- Wherever possible request students to remain in their year bubbles.
- If paying by cash ensure they have the correct fare as some operators may not return change.
- If using contactless payments check to see if the operator in both directions have the facility. (only GoNE, Stagecoach, Arriva have).
- Request parents and students to check their travel arrangements - times and routes as they may have changed. (NEXUS website) <https://www.nexus.org.uk/covid-secure>.

SCHOLARS SERVICES for September 2020-21

Morning SERVICES

542 SERVICE DEPARTS – 07:35 LOW SIMONSIDE (Falmouth Drive)

VIA: Falmouth Drive, Taunton Avenue, Lynton Avenue, Auckland Terrace, John Reid Road, CREMATORIUM (0741), Chesterton Road, BIDDICK HALL (0743), Sheridan Road, Galsworthy Road, B1298, Nevison Avenue, King George Road Roundabout, NEVISON AVENUE (0750) Whiteleas Way, WHITELEAS SHOPS (0755), Galsworthy Road, Benton Road, NEW ROAD (0807), Hubert Street.
ARRIVES BOLDON COLLIERY ASDA 08:10

Afternoon SERVICES

542 SERVICE DEPARTS – 14:50 BOLDON COMP SCHOOL

Via : New Road, Boldon Lane, Benton Road, Galsworthy Road, Chesterton Road, BIDDICK HALL ESTATE (1458), Sheridan Road, Galsworthy Road, Nevinson Avenue, RIDGEWAY (1503), King George Road, John Reid Road, CREMATORIUM (1508), John Reid Road roundabout, Auckland Terrace, Lynton Avenue, Taunton Avenue, Falmouth Drive, LOW SIMONSIDE (1512), Taunton Avenue, Lynton Avenue, Auckland Terrace, John Reid Road roundabout, Leam Lane, Edinburgh Road, SOUTH LEAM (1515), Perth Avenue.
Terminate at last stop on Perth Avenue

ARRIVES PERTH AVENUE 15:20

I hope everyone enjoys the weekend and we look forward to seeing the staff and students next week for another busy but productive year at Boldon School.

Ian Noble
Headteacher