



# Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership

19<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

As promised in the most recent letter from Alun Williams CEO, I am writing to you to outline the measures we are taking at St Dunstan’s School to increase the face-to-face time we have with Year 10. We have all been working collectively on risk assessments and planning documents to ensure the safety of staff and children on-site from June 1<sup>st</sup>. The risk assessments have been checked and endorsed by our health and safety and legal teams and are being constantly updated where new government guidance is issued.

I would like to thank those parents and carers who have completed our online survey as this has been very helpful to us as we develop our plans for provision. The plans in school are very detailed as you might imagine and will be dynamic, as the situation in school changes. In the list that follows, I have attempted to share with you how we believe we can organise school for the safe return of Year 10 pupils.

### Arrangement for classes

- We will be using the large spaces in the school (Dining Room, Gym, Drama Studio and Sports Hall) for teaching so that we can ensure all students remain 2 metres apart.
- To help with transition back in to school and to allow time for some students to have additional help, we will run lessons from 9am to 12pm. Each morning will focus on one subject, taught as a class with a 15 minute break in the middle.
- We hope to be able to run sessions as follows.

Week A				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
English	Maths	Science	Option A	Option B
Week B				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
English	Maths	Science	Option C	Option D

In the first 2 weeks from June 1<sup>st</sup>, we intend to invite in Year 10 students who have not managed to engage well in home-learning for the afternoons for intervention sessions. This will allow us to boost learning and help resolve issues. You will shortly receive notification if your child is required to attend school in the afternoon detailing the sessions they should remain at school for.

- To ensure social distancing and the safety of students we will expect all students to follow rules around social distancing at all times.
- On arrival at school students will need to remain 2 metres apart on their walk in to school. Each class will enter the building using a different route and sit at the desk allocated to them by the teacher.
- As the teacher will not be able to walk around the room as they normally would it is essential that students bring their basic equipment as it will not be loaned out during lessons. (This includes their own calculator). Any books or worksheets necessary for the lesson will be





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supplied by the teacher before the lesson starts. Please contact us if you need help with equipment and stationery.

- Each class will have a staggered break time to reduce the number of students at break at the same time. They will have a defined area that is large enough for students to remain 2 metres apart at this time. This will be monitored by staff on duty.
- At the end of the morning we ask that students leave keeping 2 metres apart unless they have been invited in for intervention in the afternoon. Parents and students will be informed if they are expected to attend in the afternoon.
- As the corridors at St Dunstan's are narrow, to reduce the risk of breaking social distancing, year 10 students will need to remain in their teaching space (or break time space). There is a separate block of toilets for each room. Students will only be able to go to the toilet one at a time to ensure social distancing.
- When students enter or leave the site, they must adhere to social distancing markings provided.
- PPE should not generally be worn in schools by staff or children according to the advice of the Government. We do have supplies of PPE available for staff and they may choose to use this in certain situations to protect your child and themselves. In most cases, because of the arrangements that have been made, this will not be necessary.
- All students and staff will be asked to apply hand sanitiser on entry to their classroom space, and any time they enter a new space. If staff or students visit the toilet they must wash their hands using the hand washing guidance provided.
- Each classroom and all spaces used each day will be deep cleaned each evening, in addition to this all shared contact surfaces will be cleaned during the day.
- Students can be dropped off as usual at school, and collected but we ask parents to help keep social distancing by remaining in their cars to pick up and drop off. If you would like to contact a teacher, please do so by email to reduce social contact.
- As only a small number of students will be on site at lunch time and beyond, students must remain 2 metres apart and will need to bring a packed lunch to school with them. Lunches for Free School Meal children who are remaining on site for the afternoon will be provided by the Trust catering team. Vouchers will be issued as usual for those not expected to be in school.
- School uniform will not be required as pupils should change their clothing daily if at all possible.
- Students in year 10 who are currently accessing the keyworker and vulnerable children provision will remain on school site at lunch time and join the planned sessions for this group in the afternoon if they are not expected to attend planned intervention.

As a reminder, all schools in the Trust will be closed for all children over the half-term break. This is to ensure they have been deep cleaned, but also to give staff, some of whom have not taken a





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day off for 2 months (including weekends), to have some downtime and prepare for the gradual reopening of schools.

Somerset Council have assured us that they will be able to provide transport as normal to and from school. Social distancing will be in force on buses and in taxis.

Staff and children should not attend school if they have any symptoms or are self-isolating due to symptoms in their household. If your child were to become unwell at school, they would need to be collected promptly. If your child or anyone in your household develops symptoms you should contact 111 and request a test. In this instance please do keep the school informed.

Finally, we are attempting to do our very best to ensure social distancing between children and indeed between children and staff. As Mr Williams outlined in his letter to you last week, this will be very difficult to achieve. We cannot guarantee social distancing at all times, but have worked to minimise the possibility of this happening.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Keith Howard  
Headteacher

