



High Tunstall College of Science

Inspire | Support | Achieve



Headteacher: Mark R Tilling

Deputy Headteachers: Peter W Hayward and Laura Ovens

2nd March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back after half term, it is so lovely to see that you all engaged online in such a purposeful and successful manner. I am pleased to confirm that all students will be able to return to school on **Monday 8th March 2021 at 8:40am**. This letter is to cover the main 'headlines' that parents/carers will want to know as we start to prepare for the full re-opening in less than two weeks' time.

The main message is that the College will return on the same basis as the autumn term, with the expectation that all students attend college and the majority of college life being 'normal' for students and parents/carers. We will review our risk assessment and protocols by the end of this week, but we do not envisage these changing, so expect everything to look the same as it did before the schools closed except that all students are strongly encouraged to wear a face covering at all times when they are in College.

For now, the following items are the things that we expect most parents/carers will want confirmation about:

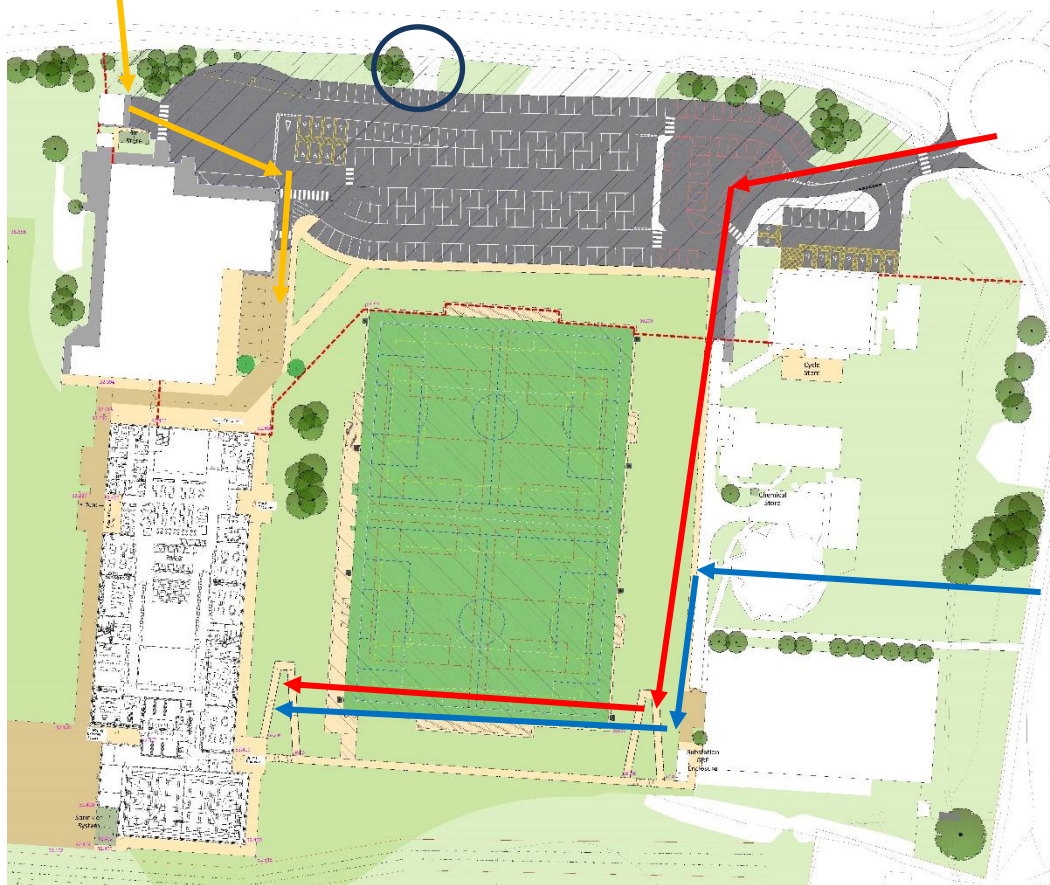
- **School Clubs:** We have asked staff to start to run after school clubs again and as students return these will be advertised, I am sure you will understand that most will start post Easter as this is such a short term.
- **School Transport:** If you travel by school transport or on a public service bus these are back running as normal, except you must wear a face covering at all times.
- **Lunchtime:** We intended to change lunchtime in January on students return then and will now progress with this change. Students will continue to have lunch in year group bubbles until social distancing restrictions are reduced further.

Year 8 and 10	-	Breaktime	9.40 – 10.00
Year ARC, 7, 9 and 11	-	Breaktime	10.40 – 11.00
Year 8 and 10	-	Lunchtime	12.00 – 12.30
Year 7 & ARC	-	Lunchtime	12.30 – 13.00
Year 9 and 11	-	Lunchtime	13.00 – 13.30

3G Pitch and Carpark:

The building work will commence on Wednesday 3rd March for the 3G pitch and therefore the top end of the carpark will be closed to all visitors. We would like to apologise but we know this may cause some disruption to access and regress to the site.

Students can enter the site safely using the following routes:



- A. Via the main gates they will have to walk along the road next to the swimming pool and make their way up to the College
- B. Via the pedestrian entrance next to North Building then they can enter the College buildings as normal
- C. Via the pedestrian gates next to the MUGA, students will access the site as normal.

All students who are on a bicycle will have to enter the site carefully via the main gate and then proceed accordingly towards the main building after dropping their bikes off. It is important to note that all visitors will have to come through the pedestrian gate next to the North Building (route B highlighted in yellow) as the gates circled above will be used to allow access for equipment and materials and will be in constant use.

Hopefully that gives everyone enough information to start planning for how life will look from Monday 8th March, but please don't hesitate to ask any questions in the meantime.

Between now and the first day back, there are a few other things to consider as students start to prepare for a return to college after such a long break:

- **Sleep/Routines:** It is more than likely that things are somewhat out of routine for many families, especially after the half-term holiday, so it is worth starting to get used to normal bed-times and getting up times as of now;
- **College Uniform:** As part of getting up in good time, it will also be worth getting back into the routine of not just being up, but being dressed and ready to leave on time. It might be worth checking uniform as soon as possible to see what fits and what might need replacing.
- **Anxieties:** Although we expect that most of the students are already very keen to return to college, we also know that it may create some anxiety after such a long time out of the routine of college. If you have any specific concerns about your

son/daughter, please contact their Head of Year as soon as possible to raise those concerns as we will do our very best (as always) to provide bespoke support for every student.

- **Face Coverings:** We ask that all young people are provided with face coverings for use within the College. It is important that we continue to keep each other safe and follow the guidelines as set out by the Government. Your son/daughter will need more than one facemask, and will need a plastic, sealable bag to store worn/wet or old face coverings in.
- **College work:** If your son/daughter has work that they have completed at home that has not been sent into the College this should be brought in and handed in at the most appropriate moment to their subject teacher.

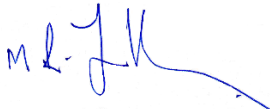
All students should proceed to the rooms they were in for their main teaching at 8.40am on Monday 8th 2021 for a swift and meaningful start to teaching.

I would also like to take the opportunity to remind students to return any borrowed equipment (college laptops, dongles etc.) to the college reception on their return to college on Monday 8th March.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch with any questions or concerns you may have. We will ensure that you are kept up to date with any further guidance we receive and will make sure that an updated copy of the college protocols are available on the website as soon as possible.

Finally, I hope that you are all as excited as the staff and I am to be see all of the students back in college – we really can't wait!

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Tilling', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mr Mark Tilling
Headteacher