

Dear Parent/Carer

As we approach the start of the new academic year, I felt it was important to take this opportunity to write to you to outline the key actions we have taken to ensure that we provide a productive and safe start to the new academic year.

As previously mentioned in my last correspondence in July, the support that our community has given the academy during the pandemic has been significant and I ask that you continue that support as we move to the next phase with schools fully re-opening.

Over the last few months we have been working very hard to develop a re-opening plan that ensures that we can provide a high quality learning environment that can be accessed safely by all of our students. The health and safety of our students and staff is of paramount importance to us and has led us to introduce the following features to ensure that our students are safe and secure:

- Split break and lunchtimes to ensure less student interaction around the building. Year groups will work in Key Stage bubbles, reducing the number of students that will be in any area.
- Year groups taught in set areas of the building to decrease movement around school.
- Students in Key Stage 3 will remain in the same classes and rooms for all subjects, with teachers moving rooms, to minimise students mixing. Students at Key Stage 4 will remain on the same corridor, but will need to move classes to accommodate option choices.
- Entrance to school to be split to ensure that student entrance/departure is managed effectively
- **Students to wear face coverings moving around the building and in communal areas – Parents need to supply face masks and they must be plain in colour**
- Hand sanitizer stations around the building
- Each classroom equipped with appropriate cleaning materials
- Each classroom to be cleaned regularly throughout the academy day
- Staff training – Health and Safety
- One way system
- Student education and training programme

Student Illness

Symptoms of Coronavirus as per the current NHS and government advice, you should keep your child(ren) at home for a period of 14 days if they develop Coronavirus symptoms. Symptoms include a high temperature, a new continuous cough and a loss of taste/smell. Where symptoms continue after 7 days, or begin to worsen, you should call 111. If someone in your child(ren)'s household has symptoms, your child(ren) must self-isolate for 14 days from the day the other person's symptoms started. This is because it can take 14 days for symptoms to appear. More information regarding symptoms and actions can be found on the NHS website (<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>).

We will regularly review the actions that we are taking to ensure that the academy is as safe as it can possibly be but understand that our experiences to date mean that we will have to be flexible in our approach to academy life.

In order to inform and train our students about the new changes we will be implementing a staggered start to the academic year. The start of the academic year will be:



Year 7 – Monday 7th September 8:30am – Full time from Monday
Year 11 – Monday 7th September 9:20am – Full time from Monday
Year 8 – Tuesday 8th September 9:20am – Full time from Tuesday
Year 10 – Tuesday 8th September 10:10am-Full time from Tuesday
Year 9 – Tuesday 8th September 11:40am-Full time from Tuesday

Last academic year the academy made significant improvements, with our first ever 'Good' OFSTED rating and our most impressive set of GCSE results ever. It is important that I stress that this is only the start of the journey; our expectation and aspirations for our students and staff have increased significantly and we are clear that we want this to become an amazing educational establishment.

In the near future I will be writing to inform you of the timeline for our conversion into the Carlton Academy Trust. The Trust has played the lead role in transforming UAK into the academy it is today. There are exciting times ahead for UAK and the Carlton Academy Trust and we know our plans will firmly establish UAK as the school of choice in Keighley and beyond.

As I previously stated in my letters, I know that the last few months have caused significant worries for parents about their child's chances of success in school and particularly in their GCSE exams and beyond, please rest assured that we will do absolutely everything we can at UAK to ensure that your child's chances of success are not hindered by what has happened in these last few months and what we may also have to encounter going forward.

I am looking forward to an amazing year where we take UAK to even greater heights!

Regards,

Jon Skurr
Head of School