



BYRCHALL HIGH SCHOOL

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Return to School Arrangements

26th February 2021

Dear Parent/ Carer,

You will probably be aware that the Prime Minister announced on Monday 22nd February that all schools will return to face-to face education on Monday 8th March.

The guidance specifies:

- All primary school pupils will return **on** 8th March
- All secondary school students return **from** 8th March with schools having discretion on how to **phase the return** of their students over the week beginning 8th March to allow them to be tested on their return.

The dates for the return of students to Byrchall are set out below. **The times for children to return to school on the day allocated will vary according to tutor group in order to allow testing to take place.**

- Year 11 students will return on Monday 8th March
- Year 10 students will return on Tuesday 9th March
- Year 9 students will return on Wednesday 10th March
- Year 8 students will return on Thursday 11th March
- Year 7 students will return on Friday 12th March
- The children who have been attending as part of the vulnerable/critical worker cohort will continue to attend full time throughout.

Teaching staff will deliver their lessons from the school site from Monday 8th March and students present will attend in person. Those yet to be re-admitted should continue to attend remotely.

Lessons on Friday 5th March will consist of work set via Edulink/Email to children's normal timetables.

Mr A. R. Birchall Headteacher

Byrchall High School, Warrington Road, Ashton in Makerfield, Wigan WN4 9PQ

Tel: (01942) 728221

Email: enquiries@admin.byrchall.wigan.sch.uk

Web: www.byrchall.wigan.sch.uk

Teaching staff will spend the day on site preparing for the return to school and having their Covid 19 tests.

Staff and students will be required to wear **face coverings** at all times, inside the building and **in classrooms**, (unless they are exempt). 2 metre social distancing rules will be strictly enforced where masks are not worn. Please make sure your children are aware of this, so that they have that expectation.

Staff will have undertaken a Covid 19 test before they return and will continue to have 2 tests per week.

Students need to have their first 3 tests in school, 3 to 5 days apart. Please complete and submit the attached online consent form as soon as possible.

Further details, including the times each tutor group's return, will be sent out next week. The school's 'token' bus services, 555 and 888 will start to run again to their usual schedule from 8th March. It is intended that the 778 service will not run until Monday 15th March, as there are other services available that should satisfy demand for children living in those areas whilst we are phasing back to full capacity.

A separate communication will be sent, shortly to parents/carers of children eligible for Free School Meals on arrangements for the week of 8th March.

Other matters I would like to flag up to you briefly are:

- We have scheduled a remote parents' evening, with subject teachers, for Year 11 before the end of March and one for Year 9. A new software scheduling package will be used and further details will follow.
- The government has announced Centre Assessed Grades will be used to award GCSEs to current Year 11 pupils. Evidence and assessments to support the judgements will be necessary. It is, therefore, of vital importance that students commit fully to their work between now and 18th June (the date when grades must be submitted by)

Any person whose positive Covid test is confirmed by a PCR test, and their contacts, will be required to self-isolate as before. Please inform us as soon as possible of any positive cases or isolation requirements that affect students by either telephoning the school, or emailing covid@byrchall.wigan.sch.uk

I have deliberately restricted the contents of this letter to the 'essentials'. Further information on all matters will be communicated as soon as possible.

I hope that you and your family have managed to maintain your health and wellbeing through this national lockdown. We are looking forward very much to welcoming your children back to school, and to the gradual return to normality. I am sure you are too.

Yours faithfully



Mr A R Birchall
Headteacher