

LGS Headlines

5 March 2021



Dear Parents

This short edition will be the last of our weekly 'lockdown series' of LGS Headlines newsletters. I do hope they have been informative and helpful.

From Monday we will welcome students back into school on a phased return, year group by year group. It has been a long time...when we broke for the Christmas holiday we were concerned about the rising infection levels but did not expect the school closure which was imposed from the very start of January. We did not expect the GCSE and A Level examinations to be cancelled. We did not expect to be away from school for another eight weeks of remote education.

However, as a school community we have survived - and I think we have done much more than that! I would like to thank you for your support over the last few weeks, as you have encouraged your sons and daughters to engage with the remote education. I would like to thank them for their commitment - we have been very impressed with the overall attendance and engagement of students across the year groups. I would like to thank our teaching staff for their hard work and dedication to providing the remote education and online learning; they have worked exceptionally hard, adapted well to online teaching, and put a great deal of creativity and thought into making the learning experience as good as it could be under the circumstances. And I would like to thank our support staff, so many of who have been quietly but effectively working to keep the administrative and support functions of the school working smoothly.

As we move into this next phase, we want to welcome students back into a school environment where, despite the continuing restrictions, they can re-engage with each other and their teachers, re-establish effective learning habits, and rebuild from the difficulties of the last few months. We are here to help and support your sons and daughters as they return; many will be confident, some will be anxious, some will have experienced bereavement or serious illness in their family, most will have coped well, some will have found things rather more difficult... Whatever their experience, we are looking forward to seeing them again face to face and working with them.

With my best wishes to you and your families.

Mr J Constable - Headteacher

From Monday 8th March our Reception will be staffed daily once again - please note that Reception opens at 8.00am.

Please contact us on 01753 598300 or email school@lgs.slough.sch.uk.

Your query will be passed on to the most appropriate member of staff.

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www.lgs.slough.sch.uk

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School reopening

Phased return to school

Students will return to school from Monday 8th March as shown below:

Day	Year groups returning to school in school	Year groups learning at home
Monday 8th March	Year 11 and Year 13	Years 7-10 and Year 12
Tuesday 9th March	Year 10 and Year 12	Years 7, 8 and 9
Wednesday 10th March	Year 8 and Year 9	Year 7
Thursday 11th March	Year 7	
Friday 12th March	All year groups now back	

Timings of the school day

The timings of the school day have been adjusted slightly from the Autumn term to build in an additional movement break. The new timings are shown below.

During the week of Monday 8th March, **the same lesson timings will apply** whether students are in school or whether they are engaged in remote learning at home.

Years 7-9		Years 10-13	
Structure of day	Timings	Structure of day	Timings
AM registration	8.20 – 8.40 am	AM registration	8.20 – 8.40 am
Movement time	8.40 – 8.40 am	Movement time	8.40 – 8.45 am
Period 1	8.45 – 9.45 am	Period 1	8.40 – 9.45 am
Movement time	9.45 – 9.50 am	Break	9.45 – 10.10 am
Period 2a	9.50 – 10.50 am	Period 2b	10.10 – 11.10 am
Break	10.50 – 11.15 am	Movement time	11.10 – 11.15 am
Period 3	11.15 – 12.15 pm	Period 3	11.15 – 12.15 pm
Movement time	12.15 – 12.20 pm	Lunch	12.15 – 1.15 pm
Period 4a	12.20 – 1.20 pm	Period 4b	1.15 – 2.15 pm
Lunch	1.20 – 2.15 pm	Movement time	2.15 – 2.20 pm
Period 5a	2.15 – 3.15 pm	Period 5b	2.20 – 3.20 pm

Other aspects

Other aspects of the organisation of the school remain broadly similar to those in the Autumn term, and students will be familiar with these. Much of the guidance issued in the handbook for students and parents published in August 2020 remains in force.

A summary of key points to remember is shown on the following page.



School reopening

Summary - key points to remember

- ⇒ **Full attendance** at school is expected unless students are unwell or self-isolating. The legal requirement to attend school is restored from Monday 8th March.
- ⇒ Students **must not** come into school if they have any COVID-19 symptoms. This is extremely important. Students with any of the COVID-19 symptoms **must stay at home**.
- ⇒ As far as possible, **year groups are kept separate** from each other during the school day.
- ⇒ Contact between students from different year groups is minimised by **limiting movement** round the school, **timetabling** students into a reduced number of rooms, and having **separate social areas** for use at break and lunch time.
- ⇒ Students are expected to **socially distance (2m) from staff** and *where possible* from students in other year groups.
- ⇒ Students must **wash or sanitise their hands** frequently. Hand sanitiser is available at dispensers in every classroom and at other points round the school. Hands must be cleaned or sanitized on arrival at school, when returning from breaks, after visiting the toilet, and when changing classrooms.
- ⇒ Students must practice **good respiratory hygiene** using the 'catch it, kill it, bin it' approach.
- ⇒ Normal uniform regulations apply, but students should **wear PE kit to school** on days when they have PE/games.
- ⇒ **Face coverings** are expected to be worn when social distancing cannot be maintained inside the school buildings, including in classrooms unless this is impractical or inappropriate. Students can choose whether or not to wear face coverings outside the buildings. Disposable face masks are not permitted.
- ⇒ The **timings of the school day** have been changed to create staggered break and lunch breaks.
- ⇒ Students should **not arrive on site before 8.00am**
- ⇒ Classrooms have been organised to have **everyone facing in the same direction where possible**, and to give sufficient space between staff and students.
- ⇒ The **Dining Room** offers a reduced (but still broad) range of food through four different serving points. All food will be eaten outside unless the weather is wet.
- ⇒ Each year group has its **own designated social zone** for eating and socialising at break and lunchtime.
- ⇒ There are **no lockers for students** except in Year 7. Students must bring everything they need to school each day.
- ⇒ There will be **no offsite educational visits** during the period of restrictions.
- ⇒ Any student displaying **COVID-19 symptoms** in school will be isolated until collected by parents.
- ⇒ If there are any **confirmed cases of COVID-19** in the school, we will follow the advice of the local health protection team.
- ⇒ Students will be offered three **asymptomatic COVID-19 tests** during the first two weeks back.



Public Health Guidance

What are the symptoms of COVID-19?

The main symptoms of coronavirus remain:

- ⇒ A **high temperature** - feeling hot to touch on the chest or back.
- ⇒ A **new, continuous cough** - this means coughing for more than an hour, or three or more coughing episodes in 24 hours.
- ⇒ A **loss or change to your sense of taste or smell** - this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

There may be other symptoms of coronavirus which are less commonly experienced.

What to do if anyone has coronavirus symptoms

If anyone in your household has any of the main symptoms of coronavirus, they should:

1. Arrange a PCR test to check if they have coronavirus as soon as possible
2. The person with symptoms and anyone else they live with should stay at home until the test result is received. They should only leave home to get the test itself.

When to self isolate

NHS guidance is to self isolate immediately if:

- ⇒ you have any **symptoms** of coronavirus
- ⇒ you've **tested positive** for coronavirus
- ⇒ **someone you live with** has symptoms
- ⇒ **someone you live with** has tested positive

If someone tests positive for coronavirus, the self isolation period includes the day that symptoms started (or the day on which the test was taken if there were no symptoms) and the next ten full days.

Anyone living with someone who has tested positive will also need to self isolate at the same time.

You can stop self isolating after the ten days if either:

- ⇒ you do not have any symptoms
- ⇒ you have just a cough or changes to your sense of smell or taste - these can last for weeks after the infection has gone.

You should keep self-isolating if you have any of these symptoms after the ten days

- ⇒ high temperature or feeling hot and shivery
- ⇒ runny nose or sneezing
- ⇒ feeling or being sick
- ⇒ diarrhoea