

1 October 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

RE: Parental Update – October 2020

At the end of our fourth week back in school, I wanted to write to you to recognise the fantastic achievements of our entire school community, as well as update you on some important changes for the week commencing 5 October 2020.

As I am sure you can imagine, over the last few weeks, myself and the wider Senior Leadership Team have been observing carefully how students have returned to school and how the new health and safety measures that we have put in place are working. There is no doubt that students have returned to school in the most exceptional way. Their behaviour, attitudes to learning, and overall maturity in the face of the most challenging of circumstances has been truly outstanding.

One key area of our work that we have been monitoring and obtaining feedback from staff, students and parents / carers on is our arrival and departure routines. At this time, it still remains the case that we are required to have staggered start and finish times, however, the speed at which students are now progressing through our hand washing stations on a morning, and moving off site on an evening has allowed us to consider how we can get all students closer to their normal start and finish time.

From next week (week commencing 5 October 2020), we will be making a change to our arrival and finish times for each year group. The times below indicate how these changes will impact on your child:

Arrival (Monday – Friday):

Year Group	7	8	9	10	11
Arrival Time	8.35am	8.35am	8.25am	8.25am	8.15am

NOTE: The arrival window for each year group is now 10 minutes. It is exceptionally important that all students are on site and through the hand washing stations before their arrival window closes to ensure that they are not recorded as being late.

Departure (Monday):

Year Group	7	8	9	10	11
Departure Time	3.50pm	3.50pm	3.55pm	3.55pm	4.00pm

Departure (Tuesday):

Year Group	7	8	9	10	11
Departure Time	3.00pm	3.00pm	3.05pm	3.40pm*	3.10pm

*Year 10 Catch up session (3.05pm – 3.40pm)

Departure (Wednesday):

Year Group	7	8	9	10	11
Departure Time	3.00pm	3.00pm	3.05pm	3.05pm	3.40pm**

**Year 11 Catch up session (3.10pm – 3.40pm)

Departure (Thursday):

Year Group	7	8	9	10	11
Departure Time	3.00pm	3.00pm	3.05pm	3.05pm	3.40pm**

**Year 11 Catch up session (3.10pm – 3.40pm)

Departure (Friday):

Year Group	7	8	9	10	11
Departure Time	3.00pm	3.00pm	3.05pm	3.05pm	3.10pm

Whilst the changes above may seem minor in their nature, they are important in ensuring that staff and students get closer to what we previously knew as the normal school day. I also hope that they are of assistance to parents / carers who have children in different year groups and had found the length of time between drop off and pick-ups a challenge.

As soon as we are able to, it remains our intention to return to our previous school day (8.30am – 2.50pm), however, for now, owing to the exceptional maturity of our students, we are pleased to be able to make the above changes.

If any parents / carers have any questions about the above outlined changes, please do not hesitate to get in touch with the academy using our email address, info@farnley.leeds.sch.uk.

Yours faithfully



Mr C Stokes
Principal