



A warm welcome back to Wolverhampton Grammar School campus.

We will continue to keep you updated with our preparations for the beginning of the School term, but for now, this guide provides you with information to help you prepare for the return to School and the beginning of term in September.

Year 7 and Lower Sixth students return
on Wednesday 2nd September.

All other year groups return
on Thursday 3rd September.



Preparing for the return to School

Use this checklist to ensure you are prepared:

- All students should have a face mask, hand sanitiser and tissues. The Government may require face masks to be worn in School – but we would request that they are worn on the journey into School if you are using public or School operated transport.
- All students should wear their School uniform to School except on days when they have PE or Games lessons when they should arrive and leave School in their Sports kit. School blazers should be worn everyday.
- Year groups will become “bubbles” at School (the Sixth Form will be a single “bubble”) and there will be a one way system operating in School buildings and around the campus. Staff will be on hand to guide students, so please do not worry about how this will work. A map illustrating the one way system is provided with this guide.
- Only bring to School what you need for that day ie a pencil case, calculator, iPad and headphones (not wireless), Universal Exercise Book (provided by School for Years 7-9 at the start of term) and any work/text books for that day’s lessons. You will have no access to lockers – so only bring what you need. Students can bring a bag to School, however please be mindful of space considerations for “bubbles” and within our classrooms at this time.
- Your child will need to bring a snack for breaktime and two full water bottles (this is because there will be no tuck shop or access to drinking fountains at School). Lunches will be provided by School (if you have requested lunch). Due to space limitations, School lunches will be prepared in School and will be packed lunches (dietary conditions will be catered for and students will be able to choose in advance their packed lunch option). A hot lunch will be provided once a week for each Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 (we hope to increase this capacity once our lunch provision has been reviewed after the beginning of term). Sixth Form students will be able to purchase food at lunch time from the Sixth Form Café.
- Plan your journey to and from School beforehand. School operated transport will be operating and parents of students who use this service will be contacted separately with details of how this will operate.
- Timetables will be available for students and parents on Firefly from Wednesday 2nd September (Year 7 students will be talked through the timetable on the first day).
- Sixth Form students will not be able to leave the School campus during the day, unless they are in Upper Sixth and have frees for Periods 5 and/or 6 and their parent/guardian has given prior permission (we will contact Upper Sixth families separately for them to do this once timetables are published).
- Most importantly, only healthy students are allowed into School. As always, if your child is unwell or has any symptoms associated with COVID-19, please keep them at home and inform school by telephoning 01902 421326 immediately. Parents of students who, for complex reasons, might be considered to be medically vulnerable, should seek medical advice to assure themselves that their child can attend School.



It is School’s responsibility to record attendance and follow up any absence. All students are expected to return to School in September, except:

- If your child is self-isolating, has symptoms or a positive COVID-19 test result (if you have recently returned from an overseas holiday, please check the latest Government guidance regarding self-isolating);
- If your child is in close contact with someone who has COVID-19; or
- If you are complying with specific clinical and/or public health advice.





Arriving and leaving School



Please try to walk or cycle to School if you can. School operated transport will be operating (families who use this service have been contacted separately about these arrangements).



Students should arrive at School no earlier than 8am and in time for morning registration at 8.50am. To help ease congestion at the end of the School day there will be staggered end times and collection points if you are collecting your child.



Any students who arrive early should go straight to their Form rooms (which are in "bubbles") or the outside space on Moreton's Piece which will be divided into spaces for each "bubble".



Staff will be on hand to guide students and escort them as necessary.



It is important at this time we limit the amount of time students and staff are moving around campus. The locations of lessons will feel a little strange at first and for the vast majority of lessons, your teachers will come to you (rather than students move around campus). Your timetables will tell you where your next lesson is (just like they did before) and you must follow the one way system around School.



Students will see a number of marquees dotted around campus – don't worry, we will tell you when to use them. For example, students having Art and/or Design & Technology lessons will be asked to wait in a marquee to be collected and escorted to the classroom.



Extra and co-curricular after School clubs will not operate immediately – we will let you know when they can restart. Homework Club will still be available until 5.30pm in "bubble" buildings.

Your "bubbles" and collection times will be:

Year 7

Art and Drama building (also known as the Hutton). Students for the first week should be dropped off at the Main Reception where they will be escorted to the Art and Drama building.

End time: 3.50pm

Pick-up time: 3.50pm from the Hutton or front of School.

Year 8

Ground floor
Merridale Building

End time: 4.05pm

Pick-up time: 4.15pm from Merridale Lane Gates.

Year 9

Languages Building

End time: 3.55pm

Pick-up time: 4pm from Merridale Lane Gates.

Year 10

Maths classrooms

End time: 4pm

Pick-up time: 4.10pm from the Hutton Gates.

Year 11

First floor

Merridale Building

End time: 4.10pm

Pick-up time: 4.20pm from the main entrance.

Sixth Form

Sixth Form Centre

End time: 4.20pm

Pick-up time: 4.30pm from the Compton Road.

The wellbeing of all our students is our first priority. All students will be supported at School and the changes that have been made to their School day will be explained with great care and in detail. A programme of additional pastoral support has been created specifically for this time and resources are also available on the Parent and Student portals.

We are all having to accept a 'new normal' and some aspects of School life may look and feel a little different, for example PPE around School or the absence of competitive sports fixtures and events. We will continue to keep you updated on any specific changes to your child's schedule or experience of School life.



A typical day in School

Families might like to talk about what a typical day will feel like ahead of the return to School.

- ✓ Students should arrive at School no earlier than 8am and in time for morning registration at 8.50am. Any students who arrive early should go straight to their Form rooms (which are in “bubbles”) or the outside space on Moreton’s Piece. There will be staggered end times for some students and School operated transport will depart no earlier than 4.15pm. Any students who catch School or public buses will be released from their lesson by 4pm in order for them to catch their bus in good time.
- ✓ Students will be asked to wash or sanitise their hands using new portable sinks at School before they enter the buildings.
- ✓ Your teachers will ensure you wash your hands frequently. There will also be hand sanitiser and tissues available.
- ✓ There will be clear signs around School telling you which doors to use and which direction to walk around buildings (one way systems will be in operation wherever possible). School staff will be on hand to direct you if necessary.
- ✓ All classrooms will look a little different. The teacher’s desk might have a clear screen attached to it and desks will be spaced apart.
- ✓ Students will have a designated area for their “bubble” on Moreton’s Piece to play at break and lunch time (but no ball games are allowed).
- ✓ Students who require to use the toilet will be directed to a prepared washroom.
- ✓ Students may wish to wear PPE in School – we will leave this choice to individual families. School staff have masks, visors, gloves and hand sanitisers available to them.
- ✓ Students in Years 7-11 will eat their lunch in Tutor rooms. Sixth Form students will eat lunch in the Sixth Form Centre and will not be permitted to leave at lunchtime. Students will be supervised at all times.
- ✓ Like a typical day in School, teachers will set and direct work in the classroom. Homework will be phased in gently at the start of term with the usual homework timetable from Monday 14th September.
- ✓ All students will submit work electronically ie no books will be handed in.
- ✓ Assemblies will be broadcast to classrooms in the first few weeks of term and any Year group assemblies will be in strict bubbles.
- ✓ Extra and co-curricular after School clubs will not operate immediately – we will let you know when they can restart. Homework Club will still be available until 5.30pm in “bubble” buildings. There will be no fixtures or team sports at this time.
- ✓ If there is a fire alarm on site during your lessons, your teacher will direct you as usual to Moreton’s Piece where you will be expected to line up with your fellow students standing at least 2 metres apart.
- ✓ Students who access OpAL and Core Curriculum Studies (CCS) will continue to receive specialist support in their “bubbles”.
- ✓ Instrumental lessons will still be available and the Music Department will contact families with those arrangements.
- ✓ Students will have access to School Counselling services. Please contact your Head of Year if you think your child may benefit from some extra support at this time.





Any questions?

As always, staff are on hand to answer any questions you have. The School will continue to keep in touch with you using the following channels:

For Parents



Parent Portal



Social Media



Email



SMS Text
Messaging



Telephone:
01902 421326

For Students



Student Firefly Portal



School email

Students:

Contact Miss Jones
if you feel at all worried
or anxious about the
return to School.

What if I choose to keep my child at home?

School will be open for all children to return in September. It is School's responsibility to record attendance and follow up any absence. All students are expected to return to School in September, except:

- If your child is self-isolating, has symptoms or a positive COVID-19 test result (if you have recently returned from an overseas holiday, please check the latest Government guidance regarding self-isolating);
- If your child is in close contact with someone who has COVID-19; or
- If you are complying with specific clinical and/or public health advice.

Please contact the School before the beginning of term by email: info@wgs-sch.net if you have any concerns about the return to School.

What if I want to talk to a teacher about my child?

Simply email School and the teacher will arrange a time to call you back. It is really important that we limit as much as possible the amount of face to face contact time between parents.

What if my child becomes unwell at School?

Just like a typical day at School, we will always contact you immediately to inform you if your child is unwell, or has had an accident in School.

If your child develops COVID-19 symptoms whilst at School they will be taken to one of our Medical rooms and you will be asked to collect your child immediately.

We are looking forward to welcoming all our students back to campus.

Any other questions?

Please contact the School before the beginning of term by email: info@wgs-sch.net if you have any concerns about the return to School.

