



Dear Year 12 Parents and Carers,

Year 12 – Updates on school engagement activities

As you will be aware, on 24th May the Prime Minister announced that secondary schools should plan on the basis that from the week commencing 15th June, they can invite year 10 and 12 pupils back into school for some face-to-face support with their teachers.

Following on from communication with all our 6th form exam awarding bodies this letter is to share with you the updates on our plans for year 12 for your son/ daughter. Please read the information carefully.

There is a variety of information included below including how your son/daughter will be graded for this year and how they will continue to work towards the next stages of their course.

This will involve online content delivery, remote communication and possibly some integration back into school. It is also important to emphasise that any plans to have any year 12 students back into school will only start when government guidelines and our internal control measures provide us with the reassurance that it is safe to do so.

Year 12 – Update on awarding of qualification for this year

The majority of the year 12 provision at Walsall Studio School is either a Pearson or RSL awarded qualification that is built up of two one-year qualifications. This would normally be a foundation diploma in the first year (year 12) and then an extended diploma in the second year (year 13). Most qualifications consist of internal units (marked by the teachers) and external units (exams marked by the awarding body).

Internal units:

All grades for work completed have now been submitted to the awarding bodies and any units that were due to be completed after the schools closed due to coronavirus have been given a "Centre Assessed Grade". This is the grade they were most likely to get had the school remained open. This grade is based on prior attainment in previous units, skill and practical ability.

External units:

If the course has Pearson external units, these will be predicted and graded by the awarding body. Their grading will take into consideration a number of factors including teacher assessed grades provided by the centre.

When the awarding bodies have processed and collated all internal and external units for the qualification an overall grade for year 12 will be calculated and this will be made available to students at results day in August. The centre will not be able to share any grades with students in advance of this date.

Year 12 – Next steps

As your son/daughter is in year one of a two year programme, and the fact that grades are now being processed by the awarding bodies, we need to look at them continuing to study subjects and skills in order that they are prepared for starting year 13 in September (the exact dates and plans for this will be subject to Government guidelines).

We have made the decision that the vast majority of curriculum set for current year 12s will continue to remain as online delivery using Google Classroom to communicate, set work and give feedback.

There will be some exceptions to this where we will be inviting students into the school for various workshop activities. These exceptions are:

- If your son/daughter is studying Level 3 core maths at the school.
- If your son/daughter is studying English A-Level at the school.
- If your son/daughter is not engaging with online lessons/material.
- If tutors have identified any practical skills that small groups of students need to work on in order to be prepared for year 13.
- If your son/daughter has been studying towards a GCSE or Functional skill in maths/English and will possibly not pass it this year.

We will contact students/parents individually if they fall into any of these categories to arrange times, days and logistics etc .

Be rest assured, if your son/daughter is invited in we will only use designated areas of the school for the workshops. Social distancing, hand washing, a one-way system, area marking and cleaning of areas will be in place to ensure the workshops are safe.

Information about any students returning to school is included later in this pack.

As government guidelines change, we may start to invite more student groups to attend before summer to complete some face to face sessions. These will be arranged and agreed in consultation with tutors, staff, students and parents. However, it is highly likely that the vast majority of year 12 students will not be invited in until after the summer break. This will hopefully be in September but will obviously be based upon government guidelines nearer the time.

All of the above planning is subject to change depending on local and national guidance.

Can I take this opportunity to thank you for all your support; we are a community and we have all adapted, changed and will continue to do so as we collectively transition back to 'normality'.

We miss our students and appreciate the work they are doing remotely. We will keep checking up on your son/daughter's progress and may ask for your support where needed.

Please feel free to contact me if you require any further information or guidance.

Kind regards,

Mr. James Bateman

Director of Vocational Specialisms

bateman.j@wss.merciantrust.org

Revised student protocols to support infection control

Any students returning to Walsall Studio School

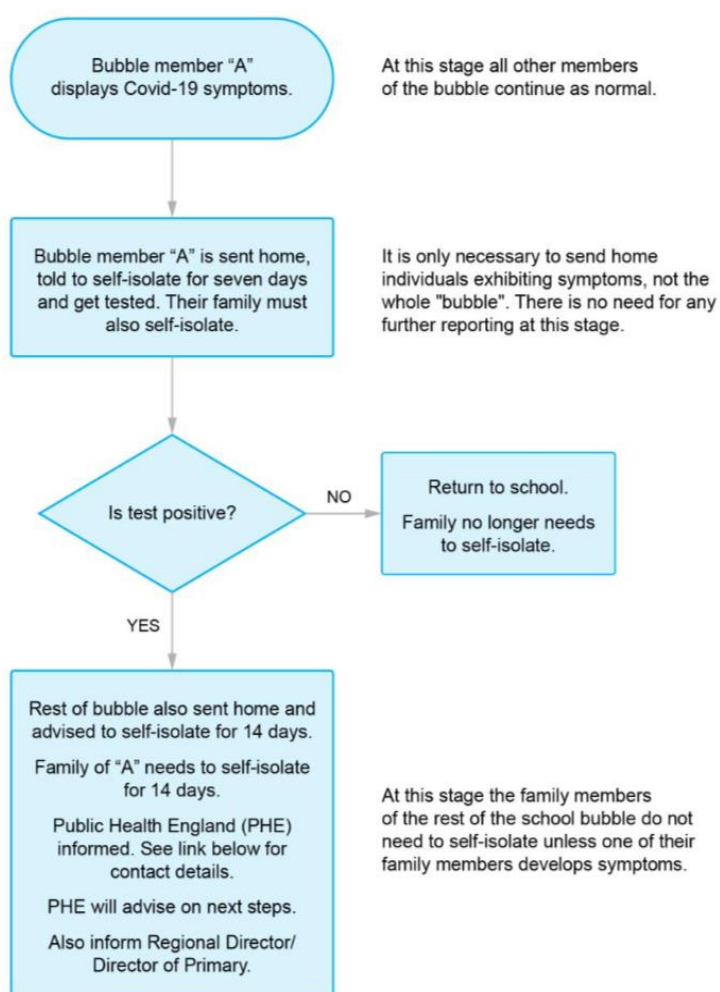
Use of public transport	Please ensure the bus and train timetables are checked prior to your child leaving home to ensure a running service. You may also want to provide your child with a mask if they are using public transport.
Clothing	<p>Parents may wish to follow the following procedure (although Public Health England advises that this is only strictly necessary for those working with Covid 19 patients):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Put school clothes in a bin liner by the door when you arrive home.• Do not shake clothes but bundle into a ball and place from bag straight into the washing machine, avoiding touching the machine if you can.• Have a shower and wash your hair, cleaning any surfaces you touch before you have done so. <p>Students are also advised not to wear jewellery or watches except for religious jewellery as the virus can live on these surfaces for extended periods of time.</p> <p>It is acceptable for your child to wear PPE (masks or face shields) and gloves in school and it is your responsibility to provide them.</p>
Arrival at school	<p>Students will be expected to follow social distancing rules at all times. There will be 2m distance markings throughout the school in order for students to follow. There will be a staggered start for students.</p> <p>Students will need to hand sanitise on arrival and throughout the day.</p>
Classrooms	<p>We will have hand sanitisers and tissues in every classroom for all students.</p> <p>We will follow the 2 metre rule in all classrooms and all lessons will be classroom based. Teachers will be expected to move around the school to limit student movement.</p> <p>Ventilation has been checked and meets government guidelines. Students will be placed in “bubbles” and will remain in classrooms throughout the day. Further details on the importance of “bubbles” is provided in the flowchart overleaf.</p>
Water	Unfortunately, we have had to remove the water fountains as they promote transmission of the virus and students are expected to bring in their own water bottles.
Behaviour	As a result of the pandemic, we need to ensure that students follow through with our expectations on behaviour and we have made the necessary adjustments to the policy. The Principal has the authority to rescind the invitation into school of any student for the duration of this term if students fail to follow the terms of the behaviour policy and infection control measures put in place to safeguard the school community.

Leaving school	Student will leave school in a staggered approach keeping within the 2m rule.
Meetings	We need to minimise all meetings within school and advise parents to contact us via telephone and email, and when necessary video conference facilities will be used to facilitate multi-agency meetings. Parents will not be able to meet staff without an appointment.
First Aid and Medication	First Aid will be administered in accordance with government guidelines. Medication will continue to be given if needed within the school's distribution of medication policy.
Student Illness	If a child displays symptoms, the school will make contact with parents and there is an expectation that your child will be picked up within the hour. Your child will be isolated in the Medical Room and staff supporting your son/ daughter will wear appropriate PPE to maximise infection control. Please see the flow chart overleaf for further details.
Movement in and around town	We expect that students follow Government guidelines when travelling to and from school. We would advise that students carefully plan journeys straight to and from school with minimal time spent in public spaces as possible.
Movement in and around the school	Movement will be kept to a minimum in and around school with sixth form students having their own space and staggered timings with other year groups.

Government Guidance – Social Bubbles

Government guidance encourages minimising contact by grouping staff and students into a “social bubble”. This will usually consist of up to 15 students plus any teachers or support staff. In the example given below we have a school group “bubble” that consists of 15 students and a teacher.

For purposes of illustration, member “A” could be a student or an adult.



Key safeguarding information for parents and students

Walsall Studio School has a vital role to play in multi-agency safeguarding arrangements and ensuring that the school is a safe, well ordered and caring environment for learning. We are committed to safeguarding children and young people and expect everyone in our school to share this commitment.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility if you are concerned about a child you MUST contact a member of the school safeguarding team but you can also contact the Walsall Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH).

Safeguarding Team		
Name	Role	Contact Details
Mrs Pippa Bennett	Designated Safeguarding Lead	Bennett.p@tls.merciantrust.org
Miss Hannah Smith	Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead	Hannah.smith@walsallstudioschool.co.uk
Mr Darren Perry	Principal/ Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead	Darren.perry@walsallstudioschool.co.uk
Rozina Kauser	Assistant SENDCO	Rozina.kauser@walsallstudioschool.co.uk
Laverne Williams	Personal Coach- KS5 Pastoral Lead	Laverne.williams@walsallstudioschool.co.uk
Tieshia Ewen	Personal Coach- Year 10 Pastoral Lead	Tieshia.ewen@walsallstudioschool.co.uk
Dawn Jarman	Personal Coach	Dawn.jarman@walsallstudioschool.co.uk

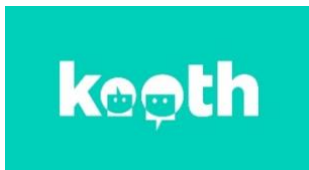
Walsall Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub		
Name	Role	Contact Details
MASH		0300 555 2866 Option 2
Emergency Response Team		0300 555 2922 or 0300 555 2836
Seona Baker	Safeguarding Coordinator (Education)	07951819648 seona.baker@walsall.gov.uk
Michelle Pinnock-Ouma	Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) (Allegations against Staff)	01922 654040 / 07432 422205 Michelle.Pinnock-Ouma@walsall.gov.uk

Additional information and support

If you have any concerns or worries whilst you are in school you can always speak to a member of the safeguarding team, your Personal Coach or Teacher. All staff at Walsall Studio School are always ready to listen if you have any worries.

We understand that sometimes you may need help and advice when you are not in school or you may want to talk to someone not connected to school. We still want to make sure that you are able to access support advice and help and have included links below that might help you.

External Support Agencies



www.kooth.com



www.childline.org



www.youngminds.org.u

Online Safety

Should you have concerns around any aspect of online safety, including sexting, online abuse or grooming, or you are concerned about someone that you are talking to online, please use the following links to access support:

- www.ceop.police.uk
- www.thecyberhelpline.com
- www.internetmatters.org

Dealing with bereavement and loss

If you are worried about or have experienced bereavement or loss, be aware that you can access the following services for support from:

- www.stgileshospice.com/phoenix
- www.cruse.org.uk
- www.childbereavement.org

Domestic Violence & Abuse

If you or anyone in your family is experiencing Domestic Violence or abuse you can access support from:

- www.victimsupport.org.uk
- www.refuge.org.uk
- www.blackcountrywomensaid.co.uk

Bullying

If you are being bullied, either physically or emotionally, or are worried that someone else may be you can access support from:

- www.bullying.co.uk
- www.antibullyingalliance.org.uk