



26<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Dear Parents /Carers and Guardians,

## Students Return to School - September 2020

I do hope this letter finds you safe and well.

I am writing to you alongside our usual newsletter in order to clearly outline for you our plans for next week when the school will begin to reopen.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming all students back to school. As you know in July the government published advice and guidance as to how schools should manage the return of all students safely. The full guidance is available [here](#), and includes a set of parameters on how to reduce contacts in school which include:

- grouping children together - into 'year group bubbles', with teachers able to move between bubbles.
- avoiding contact between groups by using staggered timings
- student movement around the school site kept to a minimum
- arranging classrooms with forward facing desks
- staff maintaining distance from pupils and other staff as much as possible

For a school as large as ours - this presents some significant challenges. However we are confident our plans meet all expectations for the safety of pupils and staff .

### 1 Revised start dates for year groups.

To allow the school to fully prepare for the return of all students and to effectively implement new government guidance, the schedule for the first week is as follows:

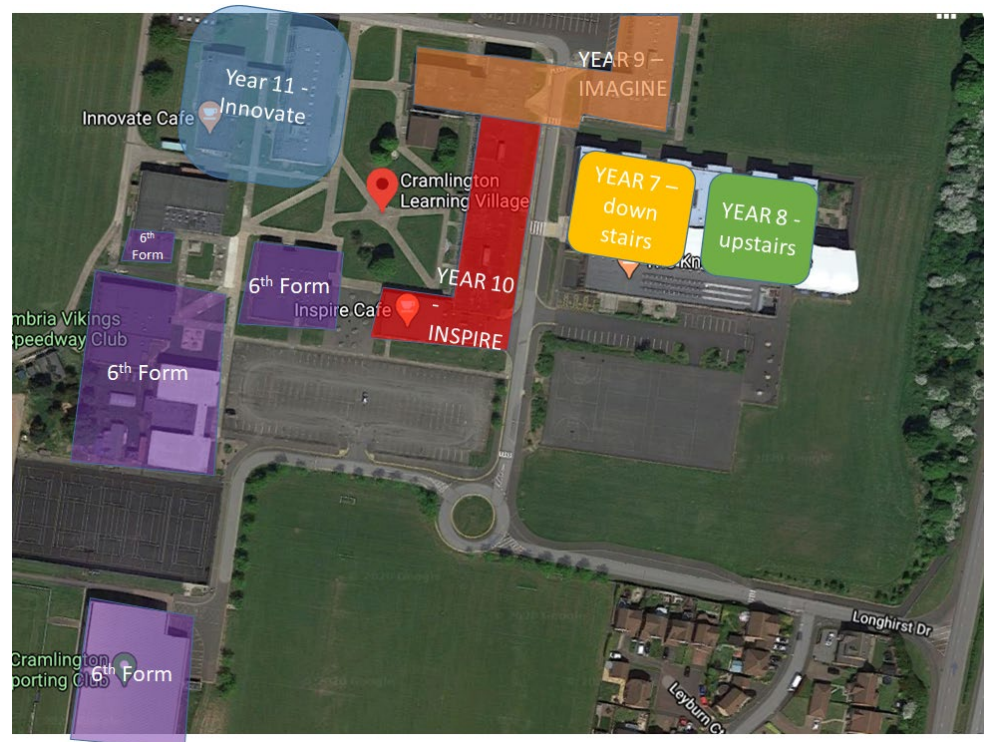
- Monday 31st August - Bank Holiday
- Tuesday 1st September - Teacher Training Day
- Wednesday 2nd September - **Year 7** and **year 12 Induction** days
- Thursday 3rd September - **Year 10,11 and year 13** return
- Friday 4th September - **Year 8 and 9** return



## **2, Different year groups will be housed in discrete zones**

In order to reduce the contact between year groups we will be timetabling students into different blocks and zones. A graphic is shown below and illustrates the following:

- Year 7 will be based in the ground floor classrooms of the JLV
- Year 8 will be based on the first floor classrooms of the JLV
- Year 9 will be based in the classrooms in Imagine Block and dedicated Inspire block rooms
- Year 10 will be based in the Inspire Block
- Year 11 will be based in Innovate Block
- In the sixth form, year 12 and 13 will form one separate bubble and will be taught in the Sixth Form Centre, the Learning Plaza, Investigate, Applied Learning, Sporting Club and dedicated specialist classrooms.



Over the summer extensive work has been carried out to reconfigure classroom spaces and ensure they have 'forward facing' desks where needed. Most areas are operating a one way system in school with designated entrances and exits.

## **3. Social Spaces and Cafeterias**

Along with the classrooms being divided into 'year group zones', each year group has been allocated social and refreshment spaces that they will be able to use at the segregated break and the staggered lunch time:

Year 7: The Knowledge Cafe and upper JLV yard

Year 8: The Hub and lower JLV yard

Year 9: Imagine Block 'zone' - students are able to pre order their breaktime snacks which will be delivered to the foyer of Imagine or access the Year 9 Common Room via the quad.

Year 10: Inspire Cafe

Year 11: Innovate Cafe

Year 12: Learning Plaza

Year 13: ILC and Social Area

All students will have their break time as normal at 11:00 - 11:20 am.

In order to facilitate the sharing of cafeterias by year group bubbles at lunchtime, staggered lunchtimes will be in operation and surfaces will be cleaned at changeover.

The staggered lunchtime will see period three reconfigured and will affect year 7, year 9 and Sixth Form lessons. Period three will start at 11:20 am as usual, with students receiving their first 30 minutes of teaching time until their lunch break begins at 11:50. The period 3 lesson will resume at 12:25 pm which will continue until 13:05 pm when the students go to their period 4 lessons.

For students in years 8,10 and 11 , period 3 will run as normal, although to facilitate the cleaning of cafe areas the lesson will be 10 minutes longer in length.

The staggered lunchtime will take place at the following times:

First Lunch - 11.50am to 12.25pm for Years 7, 9 and sixth form

Second Lunch - 12.30pm to 1.05 pm for Year 8, 10, and 11

**We would strongly advise students to bring a packed lunch** while all of the restrictions are in place. A reduced menu for students which is more 'grab and go' in style is being offered, and a pre-order system has been purchased to further reduce numbers in our cafeteria spaces - more information on this will follow .

#### **4. Travelling to and from school**

As you will know the entrances and exits to the school site are extremely busy at the start and end of the school day. The government advice places emphasis on the need for parents not to gather at school gates during these periods and also aims to encourage parents, staff and pupils to walk or cycle to school if at all possible.

In order to spread out the flow of students into the school and to reduce the mixing of year group bubbles in the community, the school is following the government advice and implementing a staggered start and end to the school day for different year groups. When students arrive in school in the morning they should go to their home group or their designated social space:

Year 7 - Active Play designated for year 7

Year 8 - Active Play designated for year 8

Year 9 - Designated section of Inspire car park and the foyer of Imagine

Year 10 - Inspire quad area / Inspire cafe

Year 11 - Innovate quad area/ Innovate cafe

Sixth Form should go directly to their first lesson

Further information on cycle storage, public transport and safe arrival at school can be found in the year group newsletter.

## Timings for year groups

Year Group	Start Time	Lunch Time	End time (Weds Only)	End Time
7	8.40	11.50-12.25	2.15	2.55
8	8.50	12.30-1.05	2.20	3.05
9	8.50	11.50-12.25	2.10	2.55
10	8.45	12.30-1.05	2.15	3.00
11	8.30	12:30-1.05	2.20	3.05
12	9:00	11.50-12.25	2.20	3.05 depending on timetabled lessons
13	9:05 if timetabled	11.50-12.25	2.20	4:15

## 5. The curriculum

We will continue to offer a broad and balanced curriculum for the students and we will be aiming to run as normal a timetable as possible while the restrictions apply. Student movement will be kept to a minimum with teachers moving from classroom to classroom as required. We have also looked to build in some flexibility with the curriculum in the first half term to support our year 7 and 8 students with making a good start in English and Maths. Year 12/13 newsletters will also outline some adjustments for Year 13.

## 6. Making a good start to learning in September

While we have not set any new remote learning over the summer, teachers did put together for each of their classes a guide for the expected work that should have been done in order to make a good start in September. It also includes how parents can provide support to help them to be ready for the new academic year. This information was available through both the student Frog page and will be our starting point when students return.

## 7. Making a good start with uniform

The [uniform](#) section of our website contains all the information you will need to equip your child with acceptable uniform and provides links to suppliers websites. If you would prefer a printed version please contact us.

One change to our uniform policy from the start of term concerns the days that students have timetabled PE lessons. As we do not want students using changing rooms in large numbers, on the specific days that students have PE they should attend school in their approved PE kit. Year group newsletters will provide further detail on what we expect

## 8. Face Coverings

The Department for Education have just updated their guidance on the use of face coverings in schools. Where schools are in an area where local restrictions have been applied due to high rates of transmission, students are expected to wear face coverings in communal areas like corridors. Our local area is not currently subject to restrictions, and so face coverings are not a requirement for students. However, we do understand the concerns you may have as parents and as such we are happy for students to wear face coverings in school should they wish.

We are very much looking forward to having the students back in school and we are confident that we will all adapt quickly to the modifications we are having to make to keep everyone safe and well. We will set out our very clear expectations of positive learning behaviours to the students and take every opportunity to promote good hygiene practices. We thank you in advance for your cooperation and support in helping the students make a good start.

You will find more information in the associated year group newsletter. If you have any questions or queries about students returning to school then please contact [admin@cramlingtonlv.co.uk](mailto:admin@cramlingtonlv.co.uk).

Kind Regards

W Heslop  
Headteacher