



SKEGNESS ACADEMY

Principal: Mr T Johnson
PA to the Principal: Mrs J Abbott

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@SkegnessAcad

February 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Return to school

I am aware there are some anxieties around the return to school and I hope that this letter will provide you with all the information you and your child/ren will need to know about returning to the Skegness Academy. Should you have any concerns after reading this letter, please let us know.

The school will open in year group bubbles as advised by the Government. The entire site also continues to function as a one-way system to ensure distancing at all times. Each year group will continue to have its own entrance to the school site and its own area for recreation at break and lunch time. Finally, regular hand sanitisation will be in place.

During the period of lockdown since January we have provided regular communication through GroupCall text messages and through our Social Media platforms, which will continue when we return to school. We have both a Twitter and Facebook account so if you do not already follow us, please feel free to do so.

- Facebook - <https://fb.me/SkegnessAcademyGAT>
- Twitter - @SkegnessAcad

Summary of return dates

There will be a staggered return to school, a year group per day starting on Monday 8 March 2021. Once your child has returned to school and had their third negative Covid test, normal on-site teaching will resume meaning we expect your child to be in school as usual 8:40 – 3:10, daily. The order of return is as follows:

<i>Monday 8 March</i>	<i>Year 10 & Year 12</i>
<i>Tuesday 9 March</i>	<i>Year 9 & Year 13</i>
<i>Wednesday 10 March</i>	<i>Year 11</i>
<i>Thursday 11 March</i>	<i>Year 7</i>
<i>Friday 12 March</i>	<i>Year 8</i>

Testing

As you will have seen in the news, the Government are asking schools to test all students three times in the first instance. These will take place from Tuesday 2 March and students will be given a time slot to attend for testing and then return home. You will receive further information on when to bring your child in for these first two tests. The third test will take place on their return to the academy during the week beginning Monday 8 March as set out above. We will only inform you if your child tests positive for Covid, we won't be reporting negative results as I am sure you will appreciate it is a mammoth task to test 1000 students three times and we need to make the process as efficient as possible. Please ensure you have completed the consent form below.

If you have not yet completed the Form to consent to testing, please can you do so at your earliest convenience. Here is the link –

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=WnSRoNi3ek2yphNZBT1FENYP72kITn5JriJzXHJr0GdUNEJGR05UVkZESEMzWVRUNTBZVDNET0lyTS4u>

Social times

In order to maintain social distancing, we will not currently be offering food at break time. We therefore advise pupils to bring a snack with them to school.

At lunch time, pupils will continue to have a split lunch. Year 7 will go for their lunch at 12.45pm followed by Year 10 and Year 11 at 1.00pm. Year 11 will use the main Bistro entrance and eat their food either in their designated outside area near the Sports Hall or sit in the lower end of the Bistro. Year 10 will enter the Bistro via the Auditorium and eat their lunch either in the Auditorium or on their designated outside court area.

Year 8 and 9 will have their lunch at 1.30pm. Year 9 will use the main Bistro entrance and eat their food either in their designated outside court area or sit in the lower end of the Bistro. Year 8 will enter the Bistro via the Auditorium and eat their lunch either in the Auditorium or on their designated outside court area.

As the weather warms up, all pupils will be encouraged to spend time outside during social times.

The Sixth Form will continue to be allowed to leave the site during lunch times but need to ensure that they comply to the government rules and social distancing outside of school. Any student who does not follow these rules will remain on site for the duration of lunchtime. For those who use the Bistro for their lunch, they will be allowed to go down with a member of the Sixth Form Team at 1.15pm.

Face coverings

The DfE now recommends that face coverings should be worn in classrooms or during activities unless social distancing can be maintained. This does not apply in situations where wearing a face covering would impact on the ability to take part in exercise or strenuous activity, for example in PE lessons. This is an additional precautionary measure for a limited time during this period of high coronavirus (COVID-19) prevalence in the community. These measures will be in place until Easter.

Furthermore, the Government have advised against the wearing of visors because they may protect against droplet spread in specific circumstances but are unlikely to be effective in reducing aerosol transmission when used without an additional face covering. We are aware of some pupils who choose to wear a visor over a face covering. Please contact us if this relates to you and we will deal with these on an individual basis.

We appreciate there will be anxieties around wearing masks for a sustained period. If your child has a valid reason for an exemption, please, can you let their Year Team know so that we can review the application for exemption and where required, issue them with an exemption lanyard. Contact details are below. Any pupil issued with an exemption lanyard needs to ensure it is always worn and visible.

Year 7:

Miss Parker – Head of Year:

cparker@skegnessacademy.org

Mrs Cole – Deputy Head of Year:

dcole@skegnessacademy.org

Year 8:

Mrs Bloodworth – Head of Year:

kbloodworth@skegnessacademy.org

Miss Barker – Deputy Head of Year:

rkent@skegnessacademy.org

Year 9:

Mr Harker – Head of Year:

charker@skegnessacademy.org

Miss Leary – Deputy Head of Year:

clearly@skegnessacademy.org

Year 10:

Mrs Ferrier – Head of Year:

sferrier@skegnessacademy.org

Mrs Laws – Deputy Head of Year:

klaws@skegnessacademy.org

Year 11:
Mrs Willis – Head of Year:
hwillis@skegnessacademy.org
Mrs Lyons – Deputy Head of Year:
jlyons@skegnessacademy.org

Sixth Form:
Miss Langdale – Head of Sixth Form:
klangdale@skegnessacademy.org
Mrs Hunt: Deputy Head of Sixth Form:
jhunt@skegnessacademy.org

Uniform

All pupils will be expected to return to school in full Academy uniform. This includes the new uniform introduced in September 2020. Here is a summary of our uniform expectations:

- For those pupils who wear a skirt, the only accepted skirt will be the “badged” SKA skirt that can be purchased directly from our suppliers.
- For those pupils in Year 7 – 11 who wear the optional black jumper, they should wear the new jumper that no longer has the stripe in the V neck.
- All pupils should wear the new tie which is bespoke to their Key Stage.

For days when your child has PE, we will continue to allow them to come into school in their PE kit for that day. We would like to take the opportunity to remind you that pupils should come in full Academy PE kit. Any pupils not adhering to the PE uniform expectations may be sent home to change.

Here is the website for Nationwide School Uniforms where you can find stock and pricing information along with their contact details.

<https://www.nationwideschooluniforms.co.uk/school-uniform/secondary-school/skegnessacademy/>

We understand that during these unprecedented times that some parents may require additional support with the purchase of school uniform. If you require some financial support please email me on tjohnson@skegnessacademy.org.

Finally, I would like to share contact details with you about a local Uniform Swap Shop:

- Email: Jodibrad80@hotmail.com
- Phone: 07738997000

They are always keen to receive donations. These can be dropped off in school by your child. If they take any unwanted uniform to their Deputy Head of Year, we will ensure it goes to the Swap Shop.

Behaviour

All pupils should continue to adhere to the classroom rules and the around the academy rules outlined on the Behaviour Response Poster within the behaviour policy. To further support the reintegration of pupils to classrooms and enable a smooth transition for pupils to return to learning we will be specifically focusing on four expectations: FACE:

- Follow instructions, first time, every time
- Arrive promptly to all timetabled lessons
- Complete set work to the best of your ability and allow others to do the same
- Enter and move around the school site sensibly and quietly

To ensure that pupils feel comfortable and confident when settling back into school life our expectations around behaviour remain high, as they were pre-lockdown. Parents and pupils can feel reassured that our consistent approach to managing behaviour will not change and that we will continue to not allow pupils to disrupt the learning of others. Pupils who need to be removed from their lesson for poor behaviour will go to our removal room (TP1) for the rest of that period. One lesson removal triggers a placement in our TP2 room

the following day where students will work in isolation and remain on the school site until 4.00pm. You will be informed via ClassCharts as usual about the date and reason for the after school detention being issued.

Our rewards policy is driven by positive points being awarded by staff via ClassCharts. We advocate that positive behaviours deserve recognition and ensure that each pupil has the opportunity to access our rewards system. The way in which we reward students is varied; specific to pupils returning to school we will be offering a wide range of awards to be achieved, and prizes to be received, in the final week of term.

Attendance

Missing out on more time in the classroom risks pupils falling further behind with their studies. Those with higher overall absence tend to achieve less well in both primary and secondary school. School attendance is therefore compulsory again from Monday 8 March 2021.

This means that from this date, the usual rules on school attendance apply including:

- It is the parents' duty to send their child to school regularly where they are of compulsory school age
- It is the school's responsibility to record attendance and follow up any absence

The Academy and the Local authority may use legal sanctions, including penalty notices and prosecution in court. We would prefer not this not to happen especially in the current situation, but parents and schools have a legal duty to ensure all children are in school.

If your child is unable to attend school we do require medical evidence to support their absence. Failure to provide this will result in unauthorised absences.

If you are worried about your child attending school or feel attendance may be an issue on our return, we have a team of staff who may be able to help. Please contact the Attendance team on 01754 879122 or email ska-attendance@skegnessacademy.org

Transport and on-site arrangements

If you usually pull into the Academy to drop your child off, unfortunately you will not be able to do this.

Each year group will continue to use their own entrance when arriving at school each morning. Here is a reminder:

- Year 7 will enter and exit the site via the gate on the right-hand side of the main building near Main Reception that runs along the Morris Walk.
- Year 8 will enter and exit the site via the back gates on Church Road North. However, those that come to and from school on the bus can use the same entrance and exit as Year 7 above but they will need to keep their face coverings on while using the Year 7 paths.
- Year 9 will enter and exit the site via Main Reception.
- Year 10 will enter and exit the site using the side gate near the Sports Office.
- Year 11 pupils will enter and exit the site using the side gate near the Sports Office then use the stairs at the far end of the Science corridor.
- Sixth Form will enter and exit the site using the side gate near the Sports Office.
- If your child travels to and from school via designated transport arranged by Lincolnshire County Council or by public transport they must wear a face covering at all times unless they have an official exemption and wear their lanyard. All transport arrives and leaves at/from the Academy. Students **MUST** get on and off at the Academy only.

Pupils with additional needs

Students with an EHCP will receive support in lessons from a TA where possible, however social distancing means that some support will not be possible at this time. Teachers will continue to offer differentiated support and resources to those students with additional needs. If have any concerns please contact the SENCO Mrs Coates Metheringham on lcoates-metherin@skegnessacademy.org

Returning of laptops and work packs

We will be collecting all loaned devices the week commencing 1 March 2021. This will allow us to ensure they are all ready to work on site once students return. Details about how and when to return laptops/devices will be sent individually.

If your child has continued their learning through our work packs, please send that work in when your child returns the week commencing 8 March. They will need to hand it in to their form tutor.

The Curriculum and learning expectations

Pupils in years 9 – 11 may be reset on their return to school, this will be based on their engagement with online learning. This is to help us to support pupils in reconnecting with their learning and allow us to put the correct support and intervention in place.

2021 Grades and Results Days

The Education Secretary, Gavin Williamson announced on Thursday 25 February that students will receive grades awarded and determined by teachers, with pupils only assessed on what they have been taught.

Teachers at the Skegness Academy will submit grades to exam boards by 18 June, allowing as much teaching time as possible before teachers make their assessments.

Results days for GCSE, A level and some vocational qualifications will take place in the week of 9 August. We will write to you again nearer the time to outline how these results days for Year 11 and Year 13 pupils will run.

Other updates:

- Pupils will not have access to the water fountains at school so will need to bring a bottle of water to the Academy with them each day.
- Pupils should come to school equipped and ready to learn. This includes a school bag containing stationery equipment such as a pen, a pencil, ruler, rubber etc. This will negate the need for your child to share equipment with other children within their bubble.
- If your child has borrowed any workbooks or textbooks from school, please could they return these. Some books will be available for pupils to loan out for DEAR (Drop Everything and Read), although we would advise, that where possible students bring their own book or magazine to read during this time. Pupils may also have library books that were loaned out to them before lockdown. Please can these books be returned to the academy on your child's first day back.
- Toilet passes will only be issued for medical reasons. If you feel your child requires a toilet pass, please contact the relevant Deputy Head of Year.

Finally, can I remind you that there will continue to be no option to 'drop in' to school to see staff. Please contact year teams by email in the first instance or contact the school directly.

We look forward to welcoming your child back very soon. In the meantime if you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact us on SKAadmin@skegnessacademy.org and we will direct your query to the relevant member of staff.

We will soon be phasing out the use of the Closure email that has been used during the period of lockdown so please try to use the admin email above from now on. We will continue to check the Closure email during this period of transition but will not be checking it as regularly as the Admin email.

Yours sincerely



Mr T Johnson
Principal

The Skegness Academy is part of the Greenwood Dale Foundation Trust Group of Academies

The Greenwood Academies Trust is a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales, registered number 06864339.
A list of Directors is available for inspection at the registered office, Greenwood House, Private Road No 2, Colwick Quays Business Park, Nottingham
NG4 2JY. Further information about us is available at <http://www.greenwoodacademies.org>