



Bishop Douglass School FAQs

What parents and carers need to know about Bishop Douglass School re-opening in March

Does my child need to attend school?	<p>Yes. Government guidance states “It is vital that children and young people return to school for their educational progress, for their wellbeing, and for their wider development.”</p> <p>If you have concerns about your child returning to school because you consider they may have other risk factors, you should discuss this with the school.</p>
What if someone in my family is showing symptoms of COVID 19?	<p>Please keep your child at home, contact the school immediately and follow current Government guidance. https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/</p>
What date does my child start?	<p>Testing on Monday 8th March and Tuesday 9th March by appointment. Wednesday 10th March – Whole School starts back</p>
What time does my child need to attend school?	<p>Pupils will be encouraged to arrive at staggered times to relieve the pressure on public transport. The school will be open from 7.45am. If your child is arriving after 8am please try and follow the recommended arrival times below. Pupils should not travel with others from outside their year group or household.</p> <p>Year 7 & 8: 8.30 – 8.40 Year 9, 10 & 11: 8.30 – 8.45 6th form: 8.45</p>
Does my child have to wear school uniform?	<p>Yes. Full school uniform is required. Any issues with this, please let us know and we will try to help you.</p>
What happens when my child arrives at school?	<p>Your child must go either into the canteen or straight to their year group designated area. There will be library provision in the morning per year-group rota.</p>

<p>What precautionary measures are being put in place at Bishop Douglass?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A detailed COVID-19 risk assessment has been completed by the school and submitted to the local authority. • In the main pupils will stay within and be taught within, their year group bubbles. • There will be clear signage around the school as to the importance of handwashing, hygiene and maintaining social distancing. • Extra handwashing stations have been installed. • Lunchtimes are staggered. • There will be an enhanced cleaning regime with regular wipe downs of classrooms and communal/frequently touched areas; • The school will have its own designated Medical/Safe room should a child or staff member start to feel ill during the day.
<p>Will social distancing be in place at the school?</p>	<p>Yes. Social Distancing of 1 metre +, will be expected when this can be achieved. Year groups are being based in set locations around the School and teachers generally moving around rather than pupils, in order to limit the risk of the spread of infection.</p>
<p>What happens if my child becomes ill at school with suspected COVID symptoms?</p>	<p>We will have a designated safe medical area for anyone who may become ill from COVID 19. Our medical staff are trained to deal with this situation. You will be called as soon as possible.</p>
<p>Will there be a breakfast provision at school?</p>	<p>Yes. A free breakfast will be available to any pupils that arrive between 7.45am and 8.20am. They will eat their breakfast in the canteen in their year group bubbles.</p>
<p>What provision is there for food at break time?</p>	<p>Food will be available at break time. Your child may bring a snack and drink to school</p>
<p>What provision will there be at Lunchtime?</p>	<p>There will be provision of food. Please ensure your child's account is topped up. Parents/carers can also provide their child with a packed lunch.</p>
<p>Will my child have a full timetable?</p>	<p>We have ensured that the school risk assessment will enable pupils to access their full curriculum. However, they may not be taught in a specialist classroom for a particular subject.</p>

Will my child be taking exercise and text books home?	Yes. We want to get back to normal as much as possible. Pupils will use their exercise books at school and at home. They will also be marked by their teachers.
Will my child be allowed to wear a mask?	Pupils must wear face masks if they are using public transport. Government guidance indicates that the wearing of masks is now statutory. Your child will need to wear a mask at all times in the building. Except when eating or involved in Sport activities.
How will the school manage my child's worries about being safe at school and reassuring them of the safety measures in place?	Our main priority as a school is to ensure that all the pupils and staff are safe in school. We have implemented various safety protocols to ensure that your child is safe. They will be informed of these procedures when they start back in March and will be reminded on a regular basis, during form time, lessons and through posters around the school
How will the school manage the emotional, mental health and well-being of my child?	All staff have had training on identifying and dealing with emotional stress. The school has a strong pastoral system and we also operate a peer mentoring system to help support some pupils.
Will there be an after school provision for my child?	Yes. The school will be providing the normal period 6 interventions for Years 10 to 13. Prep will also be available for year group bubbles. Saturday provision will continue. Extra-curricular sporting clubs will continue within year group bubbles. An update will be sent out once school starts.
Will there be practical PE lessons, Drama and Music?	Outdoor areas or large spaces will be prioritised for the delivery of these lessons. Physical distancing will be a priority. Changing rooms will be wiped down after each lesson.
When will Evening Study, clubs and intervention and extra sessions start?	We aim to return providing this support by Monday 15 th of March.
Will there be assemblies and masses?	Assemblies and masses are an important part of the spiritual life of Bishop Douglass School. These will take place on Teams/Zoom for the immediate time.