



17th July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I cannot quite believe it is the final day of the academic year. I wanted to take this final opportunity to thank you for your kindness and support of the staff at Axe Valley Academy and the quite monumental remote education efforts that I know you have undertaken. I am so proud of this community and I want to sincerely extend my thanks to students, parents, staff and Governors for the incredible support.

This letter is designed to give you further details about the wider opening models to all students in September following on from my letter dated 3rd July as the situation currently stands. All of the letters that we send to parents are available on the website.

<https://axevalley.devon.sch.uk/information/letters/>

Beginning the new term

- I can confirm that Axe Valley Academy will remain closed to pupils on Thursday 3rd September 2020 and Friday 4th September 2020 for staff training
- Monday 7th September will be a Year 7 only day and details of this have been sent separately to new Year 7 parents
- On Tuesday 8th Axe Valley Academy will be open to all students across all year groups 7-11

The first day

In September it is essential that students only access school via the rear gates by the bus park. Further details are below. **There will be no entry for any students via the front of school** (unless this has been pre-arranged with a member of staff) as we need to keep the students bubbles separate. Please do plan student's routes with them so that they only access the site through the rear entrance points from September.

We would like to encourage as many students as possible to walk or cycle to school. If parents are dropping their students at the rear of the school it is essential that parents do not leave their vehicles. Devon County Council has confirmed that normal school transport will be running and that they will update families on their guidance during the summer. The link to see their most up to date guidance is below. If your child uses the AX885 public bus you should have completed an essential survey today. Please contact us immediately if you have not received this. We will strongly recommend that anyone travelling to school by bus should do so wearing a face covering.

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/school-and-college-transport>

Tel: 01297 32146 Email: admin@axevalley.devon.sch.uk Web: www.axevalley.devon.sch.uk



Uniform

Students will be expected to wear full school uniform and bring their own equipment with them in September and I have attached the uniform policy again for information.

We are asking that if students have PE on their timetable that they arrive in Axe Valley Academy PE uniform on those days and remain in that kit throughout the day. This will be their uniform on days where they have PE. They should have their normal full school uniform in their bags in case they need it on these days. Students will be allowed to wear their Axe Valley Academy PE hoodies, blazers or plain dark coats over their PE kits if they wish. It is essential that they wear Axe Valley Academy PE kit and not any other gym wear. **They will not need to come in or bring PE kit on Tuesday 8th September.**

Safety measures

It is essential that for anyone displaying symptoms of coronavirus that they do not attend school and that you inform school immediately by telephone. The main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

We will be splitting our community into three bubbles in September; Years 7 and 8, Years 9 and 10 and Year 11. There will be detailed guidance sent to parents at the end of the summer holidays when the national picture is clearer however I wanted to share our current planning so that you can reassure your child about the new routines. We have used many of these with Year 10 over the recent weeks and they have found them easy to follow and they have responded incredibly well. There will be separate canteen spaces for each bubble, separate toilet blocks for each bubble and separate social spaces for each year groups.

Students will be expected to move around the site maintaining awareness of the social distancing expectations. We will ask students to move around the site in single file and ask them to adhere to the one way systems in place. There will be markings on the floors, both outdoor and inside, to help students to remember the expectations and stay safe. Changeover times and an adjusted structure to the school day will be introduced to prevent congestion in corridors.

For hand and respiratory hygiene we will continue to provide hand sanitiser for use on entry and exit to all teaching rooms. We will continue to insist on good hand washing routines to include washing vigorously for 20 seconds with soap and water and more often than usual. We will also continue to reinforce good respiratory hygiene using the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach where lidded bins are available in all classrooms.

Timings of the school day

Students are to arrive for 08:45am at the rear of school. On arrival to school on the first day students will be asked to move directly to their tutor bases. On a normal teaching day students will be asked to move directly to their first timetabled lesson.

The start and finish times of the school day will remain the same as last academic year however the structure of the school day has been adjusted slightly and these timings are shown below.

| | |
|-------------------|-------------|
| Arrival | 08:45 |
| Lesson 1 | 08:50-09:50 |
| Lesson Changeover | 09:50 |
| Lesson 2 | 09:55-10:55 |
| Morning Break | 10:55-11:15 |
| Lesson 3 | 11:15-12:15 |
| Lunchtime | 12:15-12:40 |
| Registration | 12:40-13:05 |
| Lesson Changeover | 13:05 |
| Lesson 4 | 13:10-14:10 |
| Afternoon Break | 14:10-14:25 |
| Lesson 5 | 14:25-15:25 |

Canteen

The canteen will be split into 3 separate areas for our different bubbles. Wrapped snacks and drinks will be served at breaks and a grab and go lunch option will be available only. The grab and go option will be a meal deal to the value of £2.20 and students who are entitled to Free School Meals will be able to collect an option. There will always be a hot or cold meal choice with cake or fruit. Drinks and individually wrapped snacks will be available to buy separately in the separate canteen bubbles.

A sample week's menu is below:

Monday

Southern coated chicken Wrap
Pasta and sauce (V)
Choice of sandwich

Tuesday

Panko coated chicken burger
Jacket potato beans and cheese (V)
Choice of sandwich

Wednesday

Chicken Skewers
Steak or vegetarian Pasty (V)
Choice of baguette

Thursday

Choice of panini
Sausage Roll
Choice of salad pot (V)

Friday

Cheeseburger or chicken nuggets and chips
Veggie sausage and chips (V)
Choice of salad pot

I hope that this gives you some of the most important information, as we know it at the moment, to help you prepare for a positive return in the new academic year.

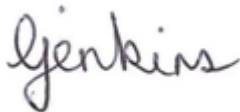
There are still many questions that we don't have the answers to however I'd like to reassure you that we are here to support you and we will pass on information as quickly as it comes to us. The admin@axevalley.devon.sch.uk email will be checked throughout the holiday and so please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

In summary

- Students, staff and visitors will be expected to adhere to social distancing, hand and respiratory hygiene guidance and one way systems.
- Year 7 return to Axe Valley Academy on Monday 7th September 2020
- Year 8-11 return to Axe Valley Academy on Tuesday 8th September 2020
- You must not attend Axe Valley Academy if you have any symptoms of coronavirus
- Full school uniform will be expected. Students will wear Axe Valley Academy PE uniform on a day where they have timetabled PE lessons
- School transport will be running
- The canteen will offer a grab and go meal deal option only and remains cash only

I'd like to wish you all a happy, healthy and safe holiday on behalf of all of the staff at Axe Valley Academy.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "L Jenkins". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Laura Jenkins
Headteacher