

Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Year 10 and Guidance for Secondary Schools from 15 June 2020 Summary

On Monday 25th May the Government released further guidance for Secondary Schools - [Guidance for Secondary School Provision from 15 June 2020](#)

Importantly, our approach will be informed by what is:

- Safe and in keeping with government guidance
- Achievable within our Academy context and logistical limitations
- Of most benefit to our students and within our staff capacity

Below is a summary of key points from the Guidance relating to Year 10 Face to Face Support at The Axholme Academy

Expectations from 15 June for Year 10

From 15 June, secondary schools are able to offer face-to-face support for a quarter of the year 10 and 12 cohort at any one time. Alongside this the government is asking secondary schools to:

- continue providing full-time provision for vulnerable pupils in all year groups (including year 10 and year 12)
- continue providing full-time provision for children of critical workers in all year groups (including year 10 and year 12)
- *provide some face-to-face support to supplement the remote education of year 10 and year 12 pupils, with a clear expectation that remote education will continue to be the predominant form of education delivery for these year groups and that this should be of high quality*
- *continue to use best endeavours to support all other pupils remaining at home, making use of the available remote education support and ensuring a high quality offer*

Secondary schools should ensure that only a quarter of pupils in year 10 (and year 12) are in school at any one time

Minimising Risks

- Minimise contact and mixing, as far as possible, by keeping pupils in small groups for face-to-face support and keeping those groups as consistent as possible whilst in school (e.g. for arrival, lunchtime, breaks and departure) and altering the school environment (e.g. changing classroom layouts so desks are further apart or dividing groups into different classrooms)
- Secondary schools should ensure that only a quarter of pupils in year 10 and year 12 are in school at any one time, including vulnerable children and children of critical workers in those year groups who are still encouraged to attend full-time. This is in addition to vulnerable pupils and children of critical workers who might be in full-time attendance from other year groups.

When seeking to minimise contact and mixing as far as schools are able, secondary schools should consider the following additional guidance:

- Schools should aim to practise social distancing in line with the measures the government is asking everyone to adopt in public and in workplaces, including keeping pupils 2 metres apart from each other where possible.
- Mixing between different groups of pupils should be kept to a minimum. We recognise that the range of subjects taught in secondary schools means that some mixing may

be unavoidable to provide pupils with face-to-face support from subject teachers. We would expect that these groups are still smaller than normal. We would also expect schools to minimise mixing for arrival, lunchtime, breaks and departure. While in general groups should be kept apart, brief, transitory contact, such as passing in a corridor, is low risk

- Given we are asking secondary schools not to have whole year groups in school at the same time, some schools may plan to use rotas. Where rotas are used, secondary schools should avoid split day rotas within the same day and ensure that only a quarter of children are ever in the school on any one day (e.g. morning and afternoon rotas should not be applied).

Minimising risks outside of school

Secondary schools should consider how pupils travel to and from school. Pupils should be encouraged to walk or cycle where possible. In preparing for wider opening, secondary schools should carefully consider:

- How many pupils in year 10 and year 12 will be travelling at the same time and how those pupils are likely to travel
- the likelihood of pupils mixing with each other and coming into contact with other people on the journey to and from school
- Schools should ensure that the use of public transport to travel to and from school is minimised as far as possible.
- Schools should consider the potential for broader social mixing outside school when deciding their approach and communicate with pupils about not socialising with each other in groups outside school

Frequently Asked Questions

How many days are Year 10 having at school from 15 June until July 16th?

If only up to 25% of year 10 can be on site each day this will result in a limit of approximately 5 days Face to Face Support per student in the 5 weeks between 15th June and 16th July. This will ensure all students are given equal opportunity to receive the same amount of Face to Face support.

Government guidance states that '*remote education will continue to be the predominant form of education delivery*' for Year 10 from 15th June. As an academy we will continue to ensure that the remote education we provide is of the best quality possible for Year 10 students not on site at the Academy for Face to Face support and also all students in Years 7, 8 and 9.

Are there going to be any special dispensations for GCSE'S in summer 2021?

Ofqual are undertaking a consultation to ensure that current Year 10 and 12 students are not disadvantaged when they sit their examinations in 2021. We are currently waiting for more details but initial comments from Ofqual are copied below:

Ofqual has pledged that Year 10 and 12 pupils will not be "unfairly disadvantaged" if their 2021 GCSE and A-level performance is hit by the lessons they have missed this year.

"If the evidence suggests that the performance of next year's GCSE, AS- and A-level students is lower than expected, we will work with exam boards to ensure they are not unfairly disadvantaged by these circumstances."

Is Face to Face Support going to follow the timetable prior to school

closure/lockdown?

The timetable for Face to Face Support will be different. The timetable will be constructed to meet the needs of the students and also will be influenced by staffing availability and around ensuring up to a maximum of 25% of Year students are on site per day, in small groups of 6 - 8 students maximum.

Further details will be shared once finalised.

What will the start and end times of the school day be?

The day will have to operate on a staggered start/end for the students who are on site. This is to ensure we can minimise contact and mixing and also reduce broader social mixing on the journey to/from the Academy.

Will Period 6 Support Sessions be taking place in June / July 2020?

Period 6 will start to happen again once the Academy is able to operate at its normal capacity with full year groups on site.

Will Transport be provided to/from the Academy?

At this time transport will not be provided to ensure that public transport use is minimised in line with the Government guidance.

If I choose not to send my child into school for face to face support will they be disadvantaged?

It is your choice whether to send your child into the Academy for Face to Face Support. From 15th June remote learning will remain the predominant form of education for the remainder of this academic year. We will continue to offer support on a 1:1 basis via Google meets and telephone calls for all students who do not attend the Academy site for Face to Face support.

Will the Academy Diner be open to provide food?

For the remainder of the Academic year students will be asked to bring a packed lunch / refreshments with them.

For students in receipt of Free School Meals the vouchers are being supplied to parents via the National Voucher scheme which will cover the cost of the packed lunch students should bring with them.

Design Technology coursework was due to start in June/July to start over the summer and is worth 50% of the final grade, how will this happen?

The Design Technology coursework is made up of written work which is completed on Google Slides and a practical final piece. Controlled Assessment can start as it usually would remotely via Google Classrooms and Slides. Google Meets will be used to support students learning. The first objective of the Controlled Assessment is research based and this can be completed independently by students.

Is work experience cancelled in July 2020? If so, have placements been informed? Will the opportunity for work experience be available when the Academy opens fully again?

Work experience has been postponed in July 2020. At this stage it is unclear what the structure for provision will be in place in September 2020 and we will want to ensure we maximise all learning time available for Year 10 as they enter Year 11. There may be a possibility for current Year 10 to do work experience in October half term if they wish to.

When will Year 10 do mock exams, so areas can be identified where more

assistance is required?

At this point, until we know when an increased number of Year 10 students can be on site at the same time, we cannot confirm when trial exams will take place. These will be scheduled once we are open more fully. In the meantime, staff will be monitoring gaps in knowledge and understanding and providing feedback, advice and guidance to students.

Will the current year 10 be full time from September as it is such an important year for them? Will years 7-10 be back full time from September?

At this stage we do not have the answer to these questions but will keep parents and students fully informed at each stage the Government guidance is updated.

College visits usually happen in June/July time, will students get the chance to do these visits if they are cancelled?

6th Form Colleges have made us aware that visits will be rescheduled and available once the restrictions have been lifted. Post 16 providers will be in close communication and updating schools and academies of their transition events.