

27<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Dear Parents

### **Arrangements for the start of term - September 2020**

I hope that you and your family have had an enjoyable summer break and that your child is looking forward to returning to school at the start of the autumn term.

We are really looking forward to welcoming back all our students, to seeing how much they have grown and developed in the last five months and to welcoming our new Year 7 and our new Year 12 students to The Compton School.

Much has been reported in the media about children and young people deserving to be back in school and this being the best place for their education and wellbeing, which is a view shared by the school and our staff. We have been preparing for the return of all students into school over a number of months and will be following government guidance to put in place the necessary risk reduction measures to ensure the safety of our students, families and staff. Our site team have completed a range of works around the school site in support of us re-opening next week.

If you or your child are worried about returning to school, local support and resources are available and can be accessed via this website link <https://nhsfreeyourmind.co.uk/back-to-school-parents-teachers>

Below, I am re-publishing much of the information sent home in July, with additional updates at the end of the letter that you need to be aware of. The updates are to do with PE kits, Café arrangements, the wearing of face coverings or masks and coloured badges for each year group.

We will not be having all year groups starting back on the same date in September. This is so that we can take time to clearly explain and walk through our new health and safety arrangements with students in manageable student numbers. There will be **three orientation days** before all students begin on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September. This means that **not all year groups will be in school together until 9<sup>th</sup> September.**

Headteacher: Ann Marie Mulkerins

Telephone: 020 8368 1783 Fax: 020 8368 2097

Email: [office@thecompton.org.uk](mailto:office@thecompton.org.uk) Web: [www.thecompton.org.uk](http://www.thecompton.org.uk)

### Orientation Days

The dates and timings of the orientation days are as follows:

#### Friday 4th September

- **Year 7** at 8.25am until 2pm. Students should arrive at the Top Gate (Porters Way)
- **Year 12** at 9.20am until 12.20pm. Students should arrive at Bottom Gate/Front Entrance (Fallowfields Drive) and then go straight to the Hall.
- All other year groups must remain at home.

#### Monday 7th September

- **Year 8** at 8.25am until 11.55am. Students should arrive at Bottom Gate/Front Entrance (Fallowfields Drive)
- **Year 10** at 11.20am until 2.45pm. Students should arrive at the Top Gate (Porters Way)
- All other year groups must remain at home.

#### Tuesday 8th September

- **Year 9** at 8.25am until 11.55am. Students should arrive at the Bottom Gate/Front Entrance (Fallowfields Drive)
- **Year 11** at 11.20am until 2.45pm. Students should arrive at the Top Gate (Porters Way)
- **Year 13** at 9.00am until 11.25am. Students should arrive at Bottom Gate /Front Entrance, Sixth Form Entrance (Fallowfields Drive)
- All other year groups must remain at home.

### Return to school full time for all students

On **Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September** all students return to school full time. In order to stagger year groups as much as possible, there will be changes to arrival and departure times, as below:

Arrival time	Year group	Gate
8.20-8.25am	Year 7	Top gate
8.25-8.30am	Year 8	Front gate
8.30-8.35am	Year 11	Top gate
8.40-8.45am	Year 10	Top gate
8.45-8.50am	Year 9	Front gate
8.35-.8.40am	Year 12	Sixth Form Entrance
8.40-8.45am	Year 13	Sixth Form Entrance

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Dismissal time	Year group	Gate
2.40pm	Year 7	Top gate
2.45pm	Year 8	Front gate
2.50pm	Year 9	Front gate
2.55pm	Year 10	Top gate
3pm	Year 11	Front gate
2.45pm	Year 12	Sixth Form Entrance
2.55pm	Year 13	Sixth Form Entrance

These start and end times for the school day will be in operation for the year groups as indicated above, until we are told we are allowed to bring the school community back together again. I know this is far from ideal, and I also know that you will understand and appreciate that we have to make such arrangements to keep all of our community as safe as possible. I would also like to ask students to **arrive promptly** and **not more than 5 minutes** ahead of their arrival time. On arrival students should go straight to their classrooms. As always staff will be on duty to meet and greet students and offer any guidance or direction needed. Keeping to the allocated time slot is to support the need to maintain health and safety in school and to ensure areas do not become congested. For students who are new to the school, it would be helpful for you to do a practise run of your journey to school, so that you can arrive at the correct time. Please do not drive on to the school site, there is not enough space and the car park becomes incredibly dangerous. If you are driving your child to or from school, please arrange to drop and pick them up away from the school vicinity, in one of the nearby streets. However, we are **strongly encouraging all children to walk, cycle** or come by public transport following Covid guidance.

### PE Kits

On days when students have PE they should arrive in their **correct PE kit**. This is so that students do not have to use the changing rooms and be in an enclosed space and in close proximity to one another.

### Cloakroom

The school cloakroom will be closed until further notice. Children who wish to wear an outdoor coat or jacket must make sure that they can carry it their bag. Coats and bags should be a dark colour as per the uniform policy.

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### **Wearing face coverings or masks**

It is compulsory for all students to wear a face covering when using public transport. Additionally, at The Compton School, we are **strongly encouraging all students to wear a face covering** when they are in transition (on corridors, stairways) to reduce the spread of the virus. The face covering should be as plain as possible. At the time of writing, it is likely that free washable face coverings will be provided to schools by Barnet Local Authority. I will let you know when we receive them. Certain people are exempt from wearing a face covering due to underlying health conditions

### **Café**

Our school café is run by Caterlink, a large catering company that supplies food to many schools in North London. They have completed and acted on their own detailed risk assessment to ensure that they have reduced the risk of infection. In order to speed up service, so that the café does not become congested they have altered their menus. The lunch time menu operates on a 3-week cycle. I have attached the menus to this email - one page per week. Additionally, there will be some "grab and go" items at break times. If your circumstances have changed as a result of Covid 19, and you think that you are eligible for Free School Meals please contact, Dhara Jani at [fsm@thecompton.org.uk](mailto:fsm@thecompton.org.uk)

### **New Systems and Year Group Badge**

As part of the orientation days all students will be given information and training on our new Covid systems, such as, increased handwashing, sanitising hands, socially distancing and the new one-way system that will be in operation. Each year group will also be given a different coloured badge to wear on their blazer lapel, so that all staff can identify year groups quickly and easily.

### **Visitors**

We are sorry that at this time we are not able to invite parents to enter the school. We are restricting the number of visitors on the school site in the interests of the health of our school community. Only visitors who have an appointment are permitted to enter the school site. We shall continue to keep in touch with you by email and through the weekly newsletter.

I appreciate that there are many changes as we work towards finding our "new normal", however, I am confident that if we work together we will be able to provide a strong and positive educational experience for your child.

Thank you in advance for your support throughout the next academic year and during the autumn term as we introduce some fundamental changes to the way we work as a school.

Yours sincerely



**Ann Marie Mulkerins**  
Headteacher

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