



Penryn
College

"Achieving through Challenge"

July 2020

Dear Parent/Carer(s)

Welcome to Penryn College! We are really looking forward to meeting you and your child - what strange times we have all experienced. I am sorry that you and your child were not able to experience our normal transition, it is such a shame. However, we are very excited about welcoming your child to Penryn College, and I would like to outline our plans for September. As you will see, these are preliminary plans and we will write to you with further details during the week beginning Monday 17th August.

It is our intention to deliver the full curriculum to students with specialist teachers, including option subjects and study support. In order to do this, we will ensure students remain in their separate year groups and that contact between all pupils and members of staff at the school is reduced as much as possible, particularly indoors. To keep ourselves safe, we will all **need to look after each other** by showing empathy, respecting each other's space, and observing good hygiene; next term will be a huge team effort from everybody.

To allow us to deliver the full curriculum, we have had to plan the operations of each part of the school slightly differently than usual. The guiding factor will be hygiene, and we have additional cleaning in place, as well as the features that have become so familiar to us, such as hand sanitiser and screens, where appropriate. Below, I have identified the key changes that I believe you and your child will want to be aware of - we hope this will create the safest and most harmonious environment. I have also included some ways in which you and your child can help prepare for September.

10 areas that will change

- **Transport to school:** We are currently working with the County Transport service to understand the measures that will be implemented on the buses. We are also looking at whether it is possible for parents/carers to avoid visiting the school site to drop students off, with the exception of Blue Badge holders and taxis. We will confirm the arrangements for school drop-offs and pick-ups in our update during the week beginning Monday 17th August.
- **Arrival in school:** School will start at 8.40am, and we ask that Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 students go straight to the meeting point outside for their first lesson. Year 11 pupils can enter through the front entrance and go to their classrooms at the right time.
- **School day:** We have moved the timings of our school day around, but the day will **start and end at the same time**. You will notice that only two or three year groups will be on break or lunch at the same time. To allow this to happen, tutor time will move to 10.15am - 10.35am for two year groups, while the other three year groups have their break. They will then swap over between 10.35am - 10.55am.
- **Breaks and lunchtimes:** We will be asking Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 students to spend breaks and lunchtimes outside. The catering team will provide limited options of food during break, which, currently, we expect to be limited to cold food. If possible, we would ask that students bring packed lunches for the first term.



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- **Tutoring:** Our current mixed-year tutoring for Year 8, 9, 10 and 11 students is not compatible with our segregation of year groups. Therefore, we will assign students a 'guest' tutor for at least the first half term, who will take students from a specific year group in a specific house. We will inform you of your child's 'guest' tutor during the week beginning Monday 17th August.
- **Movement:** Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 students will move around the outside of the building using a one-way system. Year 11 pupils will move inside the building except for entry to the old block, which will be outside the front of the school.
- **Lockers:** We will not be allowing students to use lockers in the first half term.
- **Entry to class:** Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 students will queue up for their classes outside and then go into class by the nearest entrance. At the end of the lesson they will leave by the nearest exit and go to a designated playground, unique to their year group. Year 11 students will be allowed to go straight into their classrooms.
- **In class:** Students will be asked to follow the specific rules of the classroom, and at the end of the lessons they will be asked to wipe down their chairs and tables before they leave.
- **Equipment:** Students will be allowed to use specialist equipment, i.e. for Science or PE, but will be asked to ensure that it is sanitised when it has been used.

Helping with a smooth start

It is so important we get off to a calm, stress-free start, so:

- **Transport to school:** Please can you think about your journey to school and not come onto the school site to drop your child off unless your child is in the ARB or you are a Blue Badge holder.
- **Uniform:** Please make sure that uniform is purchased and is correct. A key point of students' movement and falling out can be nose studs, covering with plasters hasn't work for anybody! Please ensure any nose stud is replaced by a clear plastic spacer which cannot be seen or, preferably, is out. This year, we will have our new STP for PE lessons, and students will need moulded stud boots to take part in lessons on this facility. Please make sure your child brings in a good waterproof jacket, as they will be outside more often than usual! Of course, if we experience wet weather, we will bring students inside.
- **Lunches and snacks:** If you are able to provide packed lunches for your child, please consider doing so. We know this will be challenging, but it will reduce the pressure and queuing for catered food. If your child is using the catering option at school, please ensure they have their card and it has money on it.
- **Equipment:** Please ensure your child has a pencil case with the correct equipment in so they can fully take part in lessons without the need to borrow. Students will need to bring their own water bottle into school, which they can refill at our water fountains.

- Contact numbers: Please ensure we have your up-to-date contact details so we can contact you promptly if your child is poorly or shows any coronavirus-related symptoms.

Starting in September

As you can see, there are considerable changes around the routine of the school day, and we really want to get this right so everyone in the school community feels confident and secure. To help us do this, we would like to bring students back one year group at a time, starting from Monday 7th September. This will allow us to, gradually, bring students into school, so that by Friday 11th September, all year groups will be on site. Our sequence/schedule for pupils being on the school site will be as follows:

Monday 7th September: Year 11

Tuesday 8th September: Year 11 and 7

Wednesday 9th September: Year 11, 10 and 7

Thursday 10th September: Year 11, 10, 8 and 7

Friday 11th September: Whole school

I know this may cause some disruption, but I believe that we really need to get this right. We should be fully up and running by Monday 14th September.

Finally, thank you so much for your support. If you have any questions or feedback, please do not hesitate to let me know.



Paul Walker
Headteacher