



Frequently Asked Questions about September

July Version

What are the Zones? The zones are how we split the school up so each year group can have their own area. This ensures the year groups stay in their own 'bubbles' and do not mix with other year groups.

Why is there a staggered day? The government requires us to minimise transport congestion and students crossing. A staggered day means only half the school leave and enter at the same time and they also have break and lunch at different times. This significantly reduces the risk of any large-scale infection.

I have children in different groups, and they start at different times or the older sibling travels with the younger sibling to school. This causes problems what can we do? The government recommends split times to reduce the impact on transport and at the school gate. If siblings can arrive at different times that would be good. However, we do know that many of our students come from further afield and this may not always be possible. If this is an issue, please contact HOY to discuss this. There will be extracurricular opportunities at the end of the day as well.

Will they have their normal teachers? Yes, the way we have set up the timetable is so that all students will get the same teachers they would under normal circumstances. This means they will have specialist teachers for each of their subjects. The teachers will move around the school to the different Zones.

Will the students get all their subjects? Yes, they will, we have made the decision not to narrow the curriculum and ensure all students get the broad curriculum we believe in.

Will they still do PE? Yes, students will have their PE lessons as normal. The only difference being they will have to wear their PE Kit for the day with a black tracksuit to avoid using changing rooms. We want all students to still enjoy and take part in PE.

Will they be in the same classroom with the same students for every lesson? No, they won't, it is important for students to work in different groups and in some subjects be in different sets. Students will move to different rooms for each lesson but all in the same year group zone.

How about specialist classrooms for certain lessons? We have made sure that some of our practical and specialist rooms are not in a zone so students can be taught practical or specialist lessons in them. These classrooms will be sanitised between year groups using them. We can't accommodate all year groups for all lessons and will be prioritising exam classes in these rooms.

What equipment do students need for school? Students will need to bring all the relevant equipment for each day. Students will not be able to borrow equipment from other students so it is imperative they look after theirs. (If specialist equipment is needed it will be issued by the teacher and will be sanitised between different classes use according to government guidelines. Exercise books will be provided) The following is a recommended minimum: HB Lead pencils, Several black and blue pens, Highlighters, Coloured pencils, Glue stick, Rounded ended scissors, Rubbers, Sharpener and a Ruler. Certain subjects such as Art, Textiles and Maths will have further equipment requirements.

Can students bring their own electronic devices into school to aid their learning? Yes, students can bring in their own electronic devices to aid their learning. Please see our 'Bring Your Own Device' policy on the school website for further details. (As this option is not compulsory, the decision to bring a personal ICT device into school rests with the student and/or their parent(s)/carer(s), as does the liability for any loss/damage that may result from the use of a personal ICT device in school). There will be an opportunity next year for parents to rent to but Chromebooks. Further details on this will be released in September.

Will there be extracurricular clubs? Davenant has a rich history of extracurricular opportunities and we aim to continue this provision as best we can within the guidelines. There will be clubs after school for each year group and a timetable will be published in September. We would also like to encourage all students who currently learn an instrument or for new students who want to learn to sign up to our online music lessons. Music is a big part of who we are and we wish to continue giving students the opportunity to learn and be part of an orchestra, ensemble band or choir when we can offer them.

Will they be expected to wear normal uniform? During this period of Covid-19 social distancing protocols, the government is recommending that clothing is washed nightly. As a school, we recognise that this will be a challenge and wish to assist you. Therefore, we will not require the students to wear their **blazers or suit jackets** during this period of Lockdown for an average school day. We are also mindful that the school kilts take a long time to dry but we would remind you that school trousers are also part of the uniform and can be worn instead.

How about PE lessons and getting changed? On days when the students have PE lessons or clubs, they will be expected to come to school dressed for PE wearing a **plain black sports tracksuit** over the top of their PE kit and will remain in PE kit for the day. Students should wear their white trainers too. (Football boots can be carried separately) There will be no changing facilities.

How will breaktime work? Break times are split so years 7,8,9 and 12 have the first break and then 10, 11 and 13 have theirs after. Each year group will have an assigned outdoor space to spend time together away from the other year groups. These will be located near their zones.

How will lunchtime work? Year 12 and 13 will have their own eating areas in their Zones, initially neither year group will be able to leave site at lunchtime. The other year groups will have separate hatches to buy food from that are unique to their year group for lunch. They

will queue following the current social distancing rules. Many students will bring in packed lunches and eat their food in their allocated outdoor space. They should at no time share their food.

What happens if it rains at Lunch or Break? We have allocated the different halls, gyms and Sports Hall for individual year groups during their break and lunch if the weather is bad enough to warrant being indoors.

What about school toilets? Every year group has their own allocated toilet in or near their Zone. These will be for their year group only. Year 9 and 11 Boys will share one of the larger toilets, but they are on different staggered times so will not be at break or lunch together. We have hired extra cleaning hours and all toilets will be cleaned hourly during the day. There will be sanitiser and soap in all toilets and the expectation is that all students wash their hands thoroughly as per government guidelines.

Will the students who use the buses be able to use them at different times due to the staggered day? The number 20 Bus is regular throughout the day as are the underground trains. They can be used for the staggered times. Currently there is only one 677 bus that is suitable for the early start. We have contacted the bus company and are awaiting to hear if they can match the need of our temporary timings.

What are the expectations of students on the buses? The school is not responsible for the buses but fully support the recommendations for masks and social distancing. Students should follow all government guidelines when using public transport.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-safer-travel-guidance-for-passengers>

Should students use the buses and trains? Students should avoid public transport if possible, by walking, cycling or getting a lift. We also recommend parents drop students off further down the road to avoid dangerous congestion at the school gate. Parents **should not** drop students off at the back gate. This is a pedestrian gate and cars make it very dangerous for students and other drivers.

What are the behaviour expectations during this alternative setup? Our behaviour policy states very clearly the expectations of our student, its foundations lay in the vision and values of our school. During this time of alternative school, where the aim is to avoid or minimize the risk of spreading the virus, students who choose to ignore or break the rules around the safety of others will be dealt with severely. In our community we can not have students behave in such a way that it would be a risk to others and their family. An Appendix to our behaviour policy will be sent home along with an amended home school agreement to cover the expectations during this pandemic.

Is the school prepared for another lockdown? Yes, we are, we were very fortunate to have the google classroom platform in place so we could teach and mark work from march. As students and teachers, we have learnt a great deal about google classroom and its usability and functions. In September there is a full training programme in place for staff and students so that if there is a second or local lockdown, we can provide a full education online for our students.

Will students and staff be expected to wear PPE (masks and visors)? As a school we will follow the current Government recommendations for the use of PPE. Staff working in very close proximity with students for care or medical reasons will always wear PPE. Some specialist lessons where staff have to support students using machinery or tools will also require the use of PPE. We will write to you nearer the time to update you on the Government recommendation for schools.

What do we do in September if someone in our household shows symptoms? You must self-isolate as a household and inform the school straight away we must minimise risk and use track and trace procedures. Government details are here [LINK](#)

As a parent, can I come onto the school site? Sadly, due to Covid-19 restrictions, to keep everybody safe, we are unable to accommodate parents coming onto site without a prior appointment. Please therefore contact us via reception@davenant.org or call us on 0208 508 0404. We will then arrange an appointment for you, if it is necessary for you to come into school.

We hope these have answered your questions for September. We will update you as and when there are any changes and we will add to this document as time goes on so it becomes an important and current source of information for parents. The most updated version will always be on our school website

As always if you have any specific questions please e mail us at reception@davenant.org

Please be aware that during the holidays it may take longer to respond to non-urgent questions.