

4th September 2020



Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you have all had a lovely summer with your families and managed to enjoy the stunning weather we had. We are very much looking forward to welcoming your children back to school next week. We understand that students and parents will be feeling a range of emotions in regards to the return to school. I'd like to reassure you that we have taken all necessary precautions to minimise risk of transmission, as outlined in previous correspondence and on our website.

I appreciate that there was a lot of information in our previous letter before the summer so I'd like to highlight only a few points that are important to remember before returning to school.

School Meals

Our catering providers, Norse, will be taking a staggered approach back to the usual wide menu operations and will be providing a limited menu within the first two weeks. Norse have also confirmed that their Covid Secure operating procedures mean that they will no longer be accepting cash during the autumn term.

Initially, we will be unable to offer the usual breakfast service. Norse will provide a snack option at break time to the value of £1.30. Students will be able to purchase break time snacks using cash, as Acle Academy staff will operate tills at break time. We would ask students to try to ensure they have the correct change.

For students who wish to have a main school meal, Norse will be offering a boxed meal at the set price of £2.30. The boxed meal will include the meal of the day or a choice of jacket potato and filling plus a dessert or fruit. A packed lunch option for £2.30, will also be available. Students who wish to purchase a meal or have a free school meal entitlement **will need to order in advance via Scopay, our cashless system**. If you find you do not have a log in please contact Mrs Webb our Finance Officer, finance@acle.norfolk.sch.uk

Please note; the school canteen will be unable to provide drinks so students will need to ensure they **bring their own drink to school**. The Meal ordering system will be live from Friday 4th September. You will initially only be allowed to order a week in advance.

Face Coverings

In light of recent Government updates the school has taken the decision to allow students and staff the option of wearing face coverings in communal areas. Students may wear face coverings whilst moving around corridors or at social times throughout the day. In line with Government guidelines, students will not be permitted to wear face coverings in classrooms. *"It will not be necessary to wear face coverings in classrooms, where protective measures already means the risks are lower, and where they can inhibit learning."*

Face masks should be appropriate for school and must be worn sensibly. Any student intentionally misusing a mask will be required to take it off.

The Government has also updated their advice on the use of school transport and face masks. All **students who travel on school transport will need to wear a face mask** throughout their journey. Students should have a plastic bag with them to enable them to safely remove their face mask and store it when not in use.

Uniform

All students are expected to be in full school uniform on the return to school. The Government has stated that, "Uniforms do not need to be cleaned any more often than usual, nor do they need to be cleaned using methods which are different from normal."

As we are currently restricted from using our PE changing rooms, students will **need to wear their PE kit on days they have PE**. Students will need to wear:

- The normal Acle polo top and sweatshirt from Stevensons
- Navy shorts, skort or Acle leggings
- Trainers
- It is advisable for students to have a pair of navy jogging bottoms to wear over shorts/ skorts in lessons. Students may also wear a navy sweatshirt (without significant overt branding) if their PE kit becomes muddy during the lesson.
- Students should bring a packet of wipes to clean their hands or legs during inclement weather

We are looking forward to seeing our school community back at school and getting used to the 'new normal' routine.

Norfolk County Council have created a new webpage www.norfolk.gov.uk/backtoschool with lots of useful information and advice for parents. It includes information on school transport; test and trace; attendance; starting school and emotional well-being and transition support.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

With best wishes



Helen Watts

Principal