

7th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, a **HUGE** thank you for supporting and enabling your child/ren to make such a fantastic start to this new school year. Uniform is looking so smart and it is such a pleasure to see classrooms full of pupils working hard – they have been so sensible and mature and will soon settle into new routines. So far, so good but we will continue to review and improve our systems if necessary over the coming weeks and months.

We need your help ...

Our biggest issue at the moment is that many pupils are arriving well before their allocated start time and so large groups are amassing at the gate which then increases the risk of virus transmission for all of them. **It is really important that pupils only arrive at school during the 10 minute window before their start time** so that we can avoid this overcrowding. Punctuality is even more important than ever as the start times now signal the beginning of lesson 1 and any pupils who are late will therefore miss key information at the start of the lesson and will disrupt the rest of the class as they enter.

We have purposely staggered start times to control the number of pupils entering at any one time to reduce risk. Your support in making this work is very much appreciated; here is a reminder of start and finish times for each year group.

Year	Allowed on site from:	Lessons start at:	Finish time:
7	8:30am	8:40am	2:35pm
8	8:50am	9:00am	2:40pm
9	8:50am	9:00am	2:40pm
10	8:40am	8:50am	2:45pm
11	8:40am	8:50am	2:45pm

A reminder too that, in line with Government directions, all Tameside pupils (other than those confirmed as exempt) **MUST bring a face mask for school each day**. Face masks must be plain with no designs or logos and it would be helpful if each pupil had a spare in their bag in case they forget or misplace their mask or the straps break. Disposable masks are quite fragile and do break easily and so a plain-coloured washable mask is preferred.

On a different note, I am delighted and proud to share the amazing news that one of our year 10 pupils, Anya, competed in the British Championships on Friday against world and Paralympic champion Hannah Cockcroft – what an amazing experience. To begin racing at this level at just 14 years old is extraordinary and is a testament to Anya's hard work and determination ... what a star!



Thank you for your continued support in keeping our school as safe as we can. The start and finish times are on our website for ease of reference.

Yours sincerely,

ARadcliffe

Andrea Radcliffe
Headteacher