

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to the March bulletin. I apologise if you feel you are being bombarded with information from the school now, but with the government announcements and Ofqual announcements about exams I wanted to ensure that I have kept you all informed. All staff are delighted that we will be welcoming students back into the building for face-to-face teaching from the 8 March and we know that most students, although a bit apprehensive, are also excited about returning. We want to do this as safely as possible, so that we ensure the safety of your children and families as well as our staff. Therefore, you will have received an email over the weekend outlining a time for your son/daughter's first test in school. This means that students will have had a negative test result before commencing face to face teaching, in line with government guidance. Students will then have two more tests in school so that when they then move to home testing, they will feel confident in doing the tests. Students will then have a staggered start to school from the 8 March. If you have any concerns about starting back at school do not hesitate to contact us.

Stay safe and I look forward to welcoming you back into the building soon.

Mrs C Horrocks  
Principal

## Uniform and Equipment

Students will be expected to wear school uniform, except for the days when they have PE, when they can wear PE kit. This will be reviewed at Easter as students may then be able to use changing facilities. Students must wear facemasks unless they are exempt and will need to wear them in classrooms. Students will also need to bring a coat so they can be outside at break and lunch. **Hoodies must not be worn under blazers.** Students should bring a school bag which will include a bottle of water, a reading book and a pencil case with standard items in it. Please do help your child to be organised so we can get them back into school routines as easily as possible.

## Assessment

March will see the welcome return of assessments being completed in the classroom. The highlights of the Assessment Calendar are as follows:

- Week Commencing Monday 8 March data collected for Year 11 and Year 13 students following their assessments weeks.
- Week Commencing Monday 8 March Assessment Data for Year 9 released to parents showing Attitude to Learning, Projected Grades and Working at Grades.
- Week Commencing Monday 22 March a two-week Assessment exercise for Year 10.
- Week Commencing Monday 22 March Assessment Data for Year 11 and Year 13 released to parents.
- Thursday 25 March Year 11 Parents Evening where parents can discuss Working at Grades and Attitude to Learning Grades with all teaching staff.
- Thursday 1 April Year 12 and Year 13 Parents Evening where parents can discuss Working at and Attitude to Learning Grades.

The results of the Examination Consultation were made available on Thursday 25 February, I have attached the two Information Graphics that summarise the outcomes perfectly, if you do have any questions, please contact me at [masont@elizabethan.notts.sch.uk](mailto:masont@elizabethan.notts.sch.uk). Please remember that I will not be able to discuss specific Projected Grades, but I will be able to share with you any support in planning for any classroom assessments that will be taking place in the coming months.

## Preparing to return to school from Monday 8 March

This section of information was included in this week's Student Briefing and Heads of House have asked students to remind themselves of our ways of working and expectations, in line with our Behaviour Policy and

risk assessment. As parents/carers, please ensure they have done this and fully understand their responsibilities so we can ensure a smooth and successful transition back into school:

We are so looking forward to welcoming all our students and staff back into school, so it is time to re-familiarise yourself with our ways of working and expectations, as per the risk assessment and national guidance, so we keep each other and our school community safe. **There are some extra measures being implemented** ... testing twice a week for students, immediate family and staff ... wearing face coverings in communal spaces and classrooms ... enhanced personal hygiene measures and maintaining distance. These will be highlighted in the reminders below. **All students should be wearing full school uniform from Monday 8 March and school PE kit on PE days.**

Our behaviour philosophies continue to be really important and closely relate to the current situation ... the need for us all to **reconnect** with each other again and learning back in the classroom will commence from Monday 8 March. We expect everyone to adhere to our values of being **respectful** and **responsible** in interactions with their peers and all staff and dig deep to show a greater **resilience** to overcoming the issues rising from a further period of home study, including getting your education back on track.

### Good personal hygiene responsibilities and procedures

- **Reminders of the symptoms of the virus** ... the most common symptoms are a **high temperature** (this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back-you do not need to measure your temperature); **a new, continuous cough** (this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours-if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual) and **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** (this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal). You should let your family know if you are not feeling well in a morning and stay home, let staff know if you feel unwell in school and a first aider can assess the situation.
- **Remember ... Hands. Face. Space.**  
Approximately 1 in 3 people who have coronavirus have no symptoms and could be spreading it without realising it:
  - hands** – wash your hands regularly and for at least 20 seconds (when you arrive at school, return from breaks, change rooms and before and after eating.) **To enhance this, you will be asked to sanitise at the start and end of each lesson if you are moving between rooms or breaks** ... your teacher will have sanitiser to facilitate this
  - face** – wear a face covering in all indoor settings ... **this now includes in classrooms during lessons** (apart from PE) as it is not possible to maintain 2m distance. This does not include people who are medically exempt from wearing a face covering/mask
  - space** – stay 2 metres apart from people you do not live with, or 1 metre with extra precautions in place (such as wearing face coverings) ... **this includes when outside during social time**
- **Practise good respiratory hygiene** ... **Catch it, Bin it, Kill it.** Cover a cough or sneeze with a tissue, throw the tissue in the bin and wash or sanitise hands ... do not cough or sneeze in the direction of another person
- **Avoid** touching our face, especially eyes, nose and mouth
- **Respect each other's personal space** and keep our hands off each other and other's belongings ... **hands off will be strictly implemented**
- **Protect your own personal space** and where possible maintain a 2m physical distance
- **Maintain good ventilation** by ensuring windows and/or doors are opened

### Travelling to and from school

- If it is safe to do so you are encouraged to walk, cycle (wearing a helmet) or scoot to school
- You should arrive within 5 minutes of your arrival time, enter the building via your allocated entrance, go to your allocated toilet to wash your hands then straight to your tutor group ... **this must be strictly adhered to**
- If you are travelling to school by car, you must be dropped away from the school entrance and walk the last section of the journey to avoid congestion outside the school gates
- If you are travelling by bus you must comply with our bus code of conduct ...

- o Be polite and considerate to everyone on the bus, including the driver
  - o You must wear a face covering/mask for the entire journey
  - o Queue and board in an orderly fashion to avoid crowding
  - o Use the hand sanitiser provided as you board and alight the bus
  - o **You must sit in your allocated seat or area of the bus**
  - o If seat belts are available, you must use them
  - o Windows and ceiling vents must be open to maximise ventilation
  - o Treat each other, your property and the bus with respect. Do not leave any litter on the bus
  - o Report any unsafe or intimidating behaviour to your Head of House
  - o If you do not meet these expectations and put others at risk, sanctions will be put in place.
  - o Unsafe and disrespectful behaviour will result in you finding an alternative way of travelling to/from school
- You must maintain 2m social distance from students outside of your 'bubble', if this is not possible then face coverings/masks must be worn

### Group 'bubbles', classroom procedures and movement around school

- Students in Years 7 and 8 remain in their class size bubble, they will access all their lessons and TP from this class
- Students in Years 9 to 13 remain in their year group bubbles House horizontal tutor group
- The timetable and classroom layout remains the same as term 1
- Where necessary staff will employ our 3 strikes warnings in a low-key manner to students not meeting our expectations ... this is your 1st warning (remind what should be doing); this is your final warning 2 mins absolute maximum time-out (reiterate expectations); if the student is still falling short of our expectations there will be a call for Patrol who will intervene by escorting the student to a central hotspot where s/he will be counselled by a senior or middle leader. Where a student is displaying extreme levels of challenge, staff will call straight for Patrol/SLT support
- We must all continue to adhere to the one-way system mapped out across the school to ensure one direction of travel. The only exception to this is on arrival to school before 9.00am and when departing after 3.00pm where you use your allocated entry/exit doors so may move in both directions on the stairs. You must walk sensibly and quietly along the corridors and stairwells respecting each other's personal space

### Equipment and mobile phones

- You are not allowed to share equipment and should carry a packet of tissues to practice good respiratory hygiene
- You must ensure you have a named water bottle with plenty of water from home as the water fountains are switched off
- You must be equipped for learning and have your own pen, pencil, ruler, sharpener, pencil rubber, highlighters in a pencil case. You must bring this in a school bag together with a reading book for DEAR time and a notebook. Where possible, you should have a calculator for maths lessons. Lockers still can't be used so you will carry your bag and coat
- You must continue to wear your PE kit to school on the days you have PE/dance as the changing rooms are not in use
- Mobile phones may be brought into school but must be switched off/to silent except at social time where they may be used in the outside designated year group areas and with a member of staff's permission in a lesson. You will not be able to use your mobile whilst eating due to the enhanced cleaning regimes which are being implemented

### Break and lunch time procedures

- Break and lunch times remain staggered ... you are expected to be outside, within you allocated zone, for most of the social time and not stay in the dome (**especially as this will enable you to remove face coverings for a while**)
- Years 7, 9, 11 and 13 continue with early break/lunch and Years 8, 10 and 12 are on late break/lunch

- There is a limited menu at break and lunchtime and no breakfast service. You must have money loaded onto your sQuid account in advance if you wish to use the canteen, as the cash loaders in school are not in use and cash will not be accepted
- Students purchasing food and drinks from the canteen will use the Dome to eat and students with a packed lunch will also eat in the Dome if there is space, outside if it is dry or in tutor rooms if it is wet break ... the designated areas and serveries for each bubble continue and the chairs/tables have been placed to ensure the necessary distance so you must not move these
- Students using the canteen must find a seat in their allocated area and wait to be called to the serveries in turn to avoid crowding around the pods. All seats in the dome will face the serveries. At break Year 11 students may go straight to the serveries at the top then take their food to their outside zone/marquee
- Packed lunches should be healthy and not contain fizzy drinks in order to maximise energy levels and learning potential
- You can only socialise with others in your year group and maintain physical distance when outside
- You should use your allocated toilets at social time and ensure physical distance is maintained ... Year 7 use those on English/outside First Aid ... Year 8 use those on maths/IT corridor ... Year 9 use those on maths/art corridor ... Year 10 use those in the Dome ... Year 11 use those on science corridor

### Rewards and sanctions

Our existing rewards systems remains in place, recognising students for a range of positive behaviours with reward points. Rewards from the last 2 half terms will be scheduled before the Easter break ... watch this space!

However, if students fail to meet our expectations, we will counsel them in how to make the necessary improvements, help them to reconnect with our school systems and support further if this is required. Staff may call students back at social time for follow up conversations to support this reconnection and reiterate expectations. Where students persistently disrupt learning we will contact home to discuss further, remove social time, facilitate time-out. Students who wilfully and persistently refuse to comply with our Covid-19 secure procedures or deliberately cough or spit at students and staff, thereby putting them at risk, will be dealt with in line with the most serious sanctions outlined in our Behaviour Policy and is likely to result in a fixed term exclusion.

### Safeguarding

**From Monday 8 March anybody collecting a student from the Academy need to bring photo ID with them.**

We have recently been involved in investigating and supporting students and parents with several online behaviours that are causing us real concern. This involves two social media platforms, one of which is age restricted at 18+ and is called **Omegle**. Please familiarise yourselves with the information below from National Online Safety and satisfy yourselves that your children are not accessing it on their mobile devices ... Omegle is a website that pairs random strangers for live text or video chats. It first launched in 2009 and its slogan is "Talk to strangers!" There is an option for adult (18+) content and a section for people aged 13+ with parental permission. Anyone can use the site. Users simply go to Omegle.com and then choose 'Text' or 'Video' chat and the page states how many users are currently online. Depending on the time of day this can be hundreds of thousands. Omegle markets itself as a great way to meet new friends however has been known to feature pornography and inappropriate content within chats, so it's important that parents are aware of the risks associated with the site. In the guide, you'll find tips on a number of potential risks such as pornographic content, cyberbullying and the chats being unmoderated.

At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one platform of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.



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### What parents need to know about

# OMEGLE



#### NO AGE VERIFICATION MEASURES

Omegle is completely free to use and allows users to communicate with others without the need to register, supply an email address or create a profile. This means users can remain anonymous and it's hard to trust who your children are talking to. Furthermore, there are no age verification measures and other than agreeing to the terms and conditions, your child can easily start online engagement with strangers and potentially access more adult themed content.

#### RISK OF CYBERBULLYING

The anonymity of Omegle can increase the risk of cyberbullying on the site. Engaging in chat with strangers means that topics of conversation can lead almost anywhere including discussions about looks, body image or the sharing of other personal information. With the availability of video chat as well, this could lead to children being coerced or forced into carrying out activities online which could then be used against them.

#### UNMODERATED CHAT

Omegle encourages video chat as much as it can, prompting users during their text chat to activate their web cam. Whilst text chat has a degree of moderation, the content in Omegle's video chat rooms is not moderated by administrators and, at any time of the day, there can be thousands of users online. This means that your child could easily come across illegal, unacceptable or inappropriate images or media. Omegle currently offers no function for reporting online abuse or inappropriate behaviour on its site and instead only offers advice to please be careful. It also advises to Use Omegle at your own peril. Disconnect if anyone makes you feel uncomfortable.

#### PRIVACY RISK VIA FACEBOOK

Omegle can be linked to a user's Facebook account to match their interests and likes with other users. This means that Omegle can access your child's basic Facebook information, and Facebook friends may potentially view Omegle activity. In addition, users can save the chat log and share the link without the other user's knowledge. It is not uncommon then for users to request being added to Snapchat, Instagram or WhatsApp for further interaction, moving the conversation into a more personal setting.

#### RISK OF EXPLOITATION

Omegle chat picks another user at random and there is very little way of verifying who your child may be chatting to. This can lead to a number of risks including catfishing (users pretending to be of similar ages, identity theft (users sharing information to commit fraud) and sexual/psychological grooming (users coaxing others to act in a way or do something they wouldn't normally do).

#### ADULT THEMED CONTENT

Unfortunately, Omegle is infamous for its pornographic content and it is not uncommon for users to expose themselves or engage in sexual acts. If a user selects video chat, then the other user's webcam will automatically be switched on before the action to 'end chat' can be selected. There is also no 'preview' in smaller thumbnail windows. As video chat is so easy to access, it means that unintentionally viewing more mature, inappropriate or even illegal images can't always be avoided.



## Safety Tips For Parents

#### DISCUSS RISKS WITH YOUR CHILD

It is important to speak to your child about the dangers of Omegle. Guiding and educating young children is far more useful than ignoring the possibility of Omegle being accessed. Explain to your child that Omegle is not completely anonymous and that other users will and do use Omegle to exploit others. Try to emphasise the risk of speaking to strangers and that engaging online is no different to engaging offline.

#### PROTECT PERSONAL INFORMATION

Omegle does not provide advice about how to protect your personal information so it's important that children are aware of what they should and shouldn't share online and with whom. If they use Omegle, always advise against sharing any personal information such as their real name, age, phone number, address or any other personal identifiable information. This also includes details of their social media accounts or gaming ID's. You should also adjust your child's Facebook settings to control what information is shared with Omegle.

#### REPORT CONCERNS

If your child comes across any inappropriate content or something which upsets them on Omegle, then it's important that they are able to discuss it with you and that you provide them with the support they need. If you think the content is illegal, then it must be reported to the police.

#### DISCOURAGE VIDEO CHAT

Try to discourage your child from using video chat on Omegle. Not only is there no filters or moderation in place, but children may be coerced into sharing intimate images or videos of themselves, which is illegal if they are under 18 and may be used against them. Omegle text chat has a degree of moderation controlled by Omegle through software and several actual moderators. The software moderates, identifies and prevents certain words and sequences of words to try and prevent bullying and grooming however is still not a 100% failsafe.

#### TRY OMEGLE YOURSELF

It's always an excellent idea to get a feel for the website or app your child is using so that you can see and understand the issues and risks for yourself. More importantly, it will also provide you with first-hand experience of the risks and dangers. When you decide to speak to your child about Omegle and what they need to be aware of.

#### USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Omegle is a website chat service. Children can only access the text chat on their phone and would need access to a PC or laptop to engage in video chat. If you have genuine concerns over Omegle and don't wish your child to access the site, you can add [www.omegle.com](http://www.omegle.com) to the list of banned websites and URLs. However, it's important to remember that Omegle can still be used via a web browser on an iPad, tablet, smart TV or gaming device and similar controls would need to be implemented on each of these devices separately.

### Meet our expert

Jonathan Taylor is an online safety expert and former Covert Internet Investigator for the Metropolitan Police. He is a specialist in online grooming and exploitation and has worked extensively with both UK and international schools in delivering training and guidance around the latest online dangers, social media apps and platforms.



SOURCE: <http://www.omegle.com>

There is another platform that we advise you research and familiarise yourself with called **MyLol**. It markets itself as the number 1 teen dating site in the US, Australia, UK and Canada. This risky social platform isn't a safe place for teens. Though the app is M-rated and says users must be over 17, users younger than that can create profiles and post their underage status. Global chat is peppered with suggestive talk and discussion of drugs, drinking, and even abuse.

Please contact your child's Head of House, in the first instance, if you feel your child needs further guidance about operating safely in the virtual world and we will arrange some bespoke sessions. The [safeguarding@elizabethan.notts.sch.uk](mailto:safeguarding@elizabethan.notts.sch.uk) email is also available for you to raise concerns about your child's welfare

## SEND

There is information below from the Student Support Portal for both an online support group and the DSA funding for Year 13 students with Additional Needs going into Higher Education. There is information about a webinar which takes you through the application process. The webinar is free to attend. However, there is a small subscription cost to join the Student Support Portal.

### **Online Support Group - Funding for Transition Year Students with Additional Needs - up to £31,1061 per learner**

I hope that you and your family are keeping well. I would like to inform you of a funding opportunity designed to support your child as they progress from Year 13 to higher education. The Disabled Students' Allowances (DSA) supports students with mental health problems, long term illness or any other disability. DSA is available on top of other student finances. There is no need to repay DSA.

This funding is designed to support learners with:

- Specialist Equipment Allowance
- One-to-One Support
- General Expenses
- Travel Cost

Applying for the Disabled Students' Allowances (DSA) can be complex. Through the Student Support Portal, we are offering members a series of webinars to take you and your child through the application process. The first in the series will take place on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2021, you do not need to be a member to attend this first webinar. To book visit: <https://portal.eventbrite.co.uk>

The Student Support Portal is an online community for parents of children with additional needs. You can sign up to the Student Support Portal at a cost of £1.99 per month or £19.99 per year. Membership also includes peer online support groups, a bank of key information around additional needs and much more.

Join your peers and start your membership at [www.studentsupportportal.com](http://www.studentsupportportal.com).

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us via [office@studentsupportportal.com](mailto:office@studentsupportportal.com).

## Year 11 Interviews

All Year 11 should have been interviewed, either by phone or on Teams, by Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March to check on their well-being, remote learning and plans for next year. Please be aware that staff may be calling from home and therefore the number may appear as "blocked". If you have any questions please email Ms Withall [withalls@elizabethan.notts.sch.uk](mailto:withalls@elizabethan.notts.sch.uk)

## Sixth Form Taster Sessions & Applications

A reminder that our subject taster sessions are on Friday 5 March and the closing date for applications is 31 March. All details regarding the sessions are on the Sixth Form section of the website and an email was also sent. Please ensure we have received your son/daughter's application by the deadline so we can start to process it in good time. We will then be interviewing them in April and sending out offers of a place. We look

forward to hearing from you soon. If you have any questions regarding the process or generally about the Sixth Form please email Lee Dainty Assistant Principal [dainty1@elizabethan.notts.sch.uk](mailto:dainty1@elizabethan.notts.sch.uk)

### Brilliant Schools

An email has been sent to all parents on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February which contains the link to the most recent Brilliant Schools Parent session. The session is called 'The art to brilliant home-schooling' and lasts for 40mins. Clicking on the link in the email will take you directly to the video.

### Testing arrangements and return to school

As per our recent communication, we have invited all students in to complete their initial Lateral Flow Device (LFD) test between Wednesday 3 March and Friday 5 March. We have had an excellent uptake of consent (in excess of 98-99%) and are hugely grateful for all your support with the Academy's asymptomatic testing routine.

Details of students return to school is detailed below – from 8<sup>th</sup> March students will return to school full time **from the date in green marked below.**

		Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11	Y12&13	
02/03/2021	Tues	Live lesson via Teams						
03/03/2021	Wed	Live lesson via Teams	Live lesson via Teams	Live lesson via Teams	Initial test	Initial test	Live lesson via Teams	
04/03/2021	Thurs	Initial test	Live lesson via Teams	Initial test				
05/03/2021	Fri	Remote work	Initial test	Initial test	Remote work	Taster sessions	Remote work	
08/03/2021	Mon	Live lesson via Teams	Live lesson via Teams	Live lesson via Teams	Back on site - Test 2	Back on site - Test 2	Live lesson via Teams	
09/03/2021	Tues	Back on site - Test 2	Live lesson via Teams	Live lesson via Teams	In school	In school	Back on site - Test 2	
10/03/2021	Wed	In school	Back on site - Test 2	Back on site - Test 2	In school	In school	In school	
11/03/2021	Thurs	In school	In school	In school	Test 3	Test 3	In school	
12/03/2021	Fri	Test 3	In school	In school	In school	In school	Test 3	
15/03/2021	Mon	In school	Test 3	Test 3	In school	In school	In school	

On Friday 5 March all lessons will be via remote work set in teams, with Year 11 involved in remote Sixth Form taster sessions as per the information sent out by Mr Dainty.

Students should arrive at school at the following start times – it is hugely important that these times are followed as it will allow a staggered start which minimises student contact in line with all the other arrangements we have in place such as staggered break and lunchtimes.

Please ensure that your son/daughter does not arrive more than 5 minutes before their allotted time.

	Arrive at classes	Depart classes
Buses	0840	1500
Surname A-K	0850	1510
Surname L-Z	0900	1520