

# Plympton Academy

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Ref: LBO/TOV

10th July 2020

## September Opening update

Dear parents/carers

As the term starts to draw to a close this will be my penultimate communication with you and still there is important information to share regarding the end of this term and the start of the next.

In response to the Government announcement, last week, regarding the need to “bubble” year groups when the students return to school in September, there have had to be some significant changes to the way the Academy operates during the day. Previously, students have moved around the site between lessons to the different subject areas. This is no longer in accordance with the guidelines and, as such, year groups will be based in one area/zone on the academy site.

Each zone will have access to ICT and an outside space; unsupervised movement between zones, by students, will not be permitted. Each year group will have designated toilets to use as well as their own entrance onto site and when leaving the site. Teachers will move between zones, in line with the guidance in order that students will receive subject specialist education.

Students will need to arrive on site, by 8.30am at their specified entrance and will need to make their way directly to their zone. We are exploring ways of providing a breakfast club within each zone from 8am and will provide you with more information before the start of term. At the end of the day, unless there is a club your son/daughter will attend, they must leave the site at 3pm from their specified exit.

Information regarding a pre-order food app for phones will be provided to students over the coming weeks. This will enable students to pre-order their break snacks and/or lunch, from our canteen every day avoiding any crowding in the canteen or students from different years groups mixing. This food will then be delivered to each zone for students to eat either in their classrooms or in their allocated outside space.



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No food will be available to order during the day, please encourage and support your son/daughter in the use of this app.

Students must have their own equipment, details of these can be found on the website. There will be a limited stock available on site to buy should your son/daughter forget their equipment. Please support them in remembering to bring the essentials, including a calculator for Science and Maths.

Whilst I appreciate that there may be a slight delay on the delivery of the Academy blazer, there is an expectation that students meet our standards on the remainder of the uniform. To remind you this is either the Academy skirt, plain black trousers, white collared shirt and Academy tie. There is also a requirement for students to wear plain black (no logos or coloured soles) shoes or trainers.

On the days that students have PE and/or Dance they will be expected to come into school in their PE kit and remain in that for the day. There will be no changing facilities on site for students to use. The PE kit is available from A-Game, details are on the website, and there is plenty in stock. For PE, students are expected to wear their Plympton Academy PE top, Plympton Academy shorts and Plympton Academy socks. In addition we are asking students to wear an additional all-weather Academy top that will go on top of their PE top to ensure they remain warm whilst at the Academy. To support this additional cost, the Academy will be subsidising the cost of this for all students by 50% and for students in receipt of the pupil premium, this item will be provided free of charge. All details can be found on the website. All other non-Academy tops/hoodies will not be allowed to be worn during the school day, however outside coats may be worn when students are not in the classrooms or PE. Students also have the option of wearing plain black tracksuit bottoms or plain black leggings (no logos) as an additional item of clothing when they have PE. For Dance, students are expected to wear their PE top and a pair of plain black leggings or plain black tracksuit bottoms. All footwear for PE or Dance should be brought into the Academy and students will change into these prior to the lesson. Students must wear appropriate plain black trainers or shoes (no logos or coloured soles) at all other times.

I appreciate there is a lot of information here and your son/daughter's Head of Year will be able to provide further communication before the end of term.

To celebrate the end of term there are the pre-recorded awards presentations for our students, who have been brilliant during the lockdown period. Make sure you catch those videos and celebrate their achievements with us.

I will end this letter on a piece of good news - we have had confirmation from the contractors that the new build will be ready to move into for the start of our new term in September. This is fantastic news and will help us start a new term off with a real buzz. To facilitate this move we have taken some time this side of the summer holiday but in addition we will also take some days in September. All students will start back on Monday 7th September with a partial opening for our Year 7 and Year 12 students on Friday 4th September. There will also be the opportunity for some of our SEN students to come in on the Friday to support the transition onto a site with many changes.

I do hope the period of uncertainty is finally slowing down and we can all start to think about having a new normal learning experience in September.

Have a good weekend.

Warm regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Boorman'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial 'L'.

**Ms L Boorman**  
**Principal**