



September Return to School Frequently Asked Questions for Parents

Is it safe to return to school?

Nishkam High School has already been open for some children and we have had enhanced safety and cleaning measures in place such as regular hand-washing, and limiting the movement of children in school. By following the guidelines that the government has published to schools (you can read them here – <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings>) we are risk assessing each and every area, classroom and learning space.

Will students be kept in ‘Bubbles’?

Yes. Students in years 10 and 11 will be kept in year group bubbles; the sixth form will be a bubble of its own. KS3 cohorts will be kept in half year group bubbles but will have the majority of their curriculum delivered as a form groups. This will also mean that we will be running three lunch times and staggered break times will take place in period 3 for key stage three classes. When outside at break and lunch, KS3 will be split into bubbles of 50 students – Compassion/Contentment and Humility/Truth. The plan below gives an outline of the day:

| | 8.25am-8.40am | P1 8.40am-9.35am | P2 9.35am – 10.30am | P3 10.30am – 11.25am | P4 11.25am – 12.20pm **5 min lunch change over built in | P5 12.20pm – 1.15pm **5 min lunch change over built in | P6 1.15pm – 2.10pm **5 min lunch change over built in | P7 2.10pm – 3.05pm | Departure |
|------------|---------------|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|---|--|-----------------------|-----------|
| Yr 7 | Prayer/Reg | Lesson 1 | Lesson 2 | Lesson 3 Break – 10.30am – 10.45am | Lesson 4 | Lunch Canteen – 12.20pm – 12.45pm Cage – 12.50pm – 1.15pm | Lesson 5 | Lesson 6 | 3.05pm |
| Yr 8 | Prayer/Reg | Lesson 1 | Lesson 2 | Lesson 3 Break – 10.45am – 11.00am | Lesson 4 | Lunch Cage – 12.20pm – 12.45pm Canteen – 12.50pm – 1.15pm | Lesson 5 | Lesson 6 | 3.10pm |
| Yr 9 | Prayer/Reg | Lesson 1 | Lesson 2 | Lesson 3 Break – 11.00am – 11.15am | Lesson 4 | Lesson 5 | Lunch Canteen – 1.15pm – 1.40pm Cage – 1.40pm – 2.10pm | Lesson 6 | 3.15pm |
| Yr 10 | Prayer/Reg | Lesson 1 | Lesson 2 | Lesson 3 | Lunch Canteen – 11.25am – 11.50am Cage – 11.55am – 12.20pm | Lesson 4 | Lesson 5 | Lesson 6 | 3.10pm |
| Yr 11 | Prayer/Reg | Lesson 1 | Lesson 2 | Lesson 3 | Lunch Cage – 11.25am – 11.50am Canteen – 11.55am – 12.20pm | Lesson 4 | Lesson 5 | Lesson 6 | 3.05pm |
| Sixth Form | Prayer/Reg | Lesson 1 | Lesson 2 | Lesson 3 | Lesson 4 | Lesson 5 | Lunch Canteen – 1.15pm – 1.40pm | Lesson 6 | 3.05pm |

How will the Bubbles look

The designated year group bubbles can be seen below:

Bubble Areas

Sixth form lessons and study area to be in the old building



Can students go anywhere on site?

No, students will only be allowed into the rooms designated to their bubble's area. At lunch time they will be in the canteen or outside with their year group(s). In the morning on arrival students will go to the designated area below. They will be collected by their form tutors and taken to form rooms or prayer;

- Year 7 – Playground – Split Compassion/Contentment and Humility/Truth
- Year 8 – Area outside canteen – Split Compassion/Contentment and Humility/Truth
- Year 9 – Area outside main reception – Split Compassion/Contentment and Humility/Truth
- Year 10 – Back arches
- Year 11 – School hall
- Sixth Form – Old Building

Will collective worship, serving and assemblies take place?

Yes. However, there will be some changes. Collective worship will run daily, but there will only be one bubble in the spiritual space at a time. Serving will take place at lunch times, but this will be carried out by members of staff on duty. In the first half term, Key Stage 3 assemblies will be prerecorded and make up part of VFPD.

Are we running a full curriculum?

Yes, the curriculum model hasn't changed. We have had to adapt the school day, layout and groupings to allow this to happen. In the creative subjects, teachers will have to collect students at the start of the lesson and escort them to the correct classroom or to PE. Students will come to school in their PE kit on the days they have PE timetabled.

Will there be food or drink on sale?

Breaktime, no; lunchtime, yes. AiP will be running a hot and cold lunch option. All students will go to the canteen for half of their lunch period. We strongly recommend students bring their own bottle of pre-filled water.

Will there be hand sanitiser available?

Hand sanitiser will be on the wall by the door as students enter. There are also a number of dispensers throughout the school, on the inside and outside of the building, along with all major entrances to the site.

What happens if a student is unwell?

Students who are unwell will be sent home at the first signs of illness regardless of symptoms. Students showing signs of Covid-19 will be isolated until parents can collect them. F24 will be used as the designated medical room. PPE will be available for the member of staff supervising the child. When the student has been collected, arrangements will be made for an extra deep clean to take place in and around the areas concerned.

What will happen if there is a fire alarm?

Students will be asked to evacuate the building in the normal way, gathering on the main playground in their form group lines. This will allow for the year group bubbles to remain, whilst also being in an outdoor setting where transmission is considerably lower.

Do students have to use particular entrances?

Yes, these are listed below.

- Yr 7 – students will queue in form groups. Form tutor will walk in through the student entrance
- Yr 8 – students will queue in form groups. Form tutor will walk in through the student entrance
- Yr 9 - students will queue in form groups. Form tutor will walk in through the back door after Yr 10 are in the building

- Yr 10 – students will queue in form groups. They will use the back door and go up the back steps
- Yr 11 – student entrance and to the hall (before school)
- Yr 12/13 - students will enter the Old Building through the green gate entrance.

Are students allowed mobile phones in school?

Yes, but they will be collected in by form tutors as we have done in the past. This will extend to Sixth Formers as well.

Wearing of masks

Government guidance is that students should remove masks when entering school.

Do students have to come in uniform?

Yes. On the day they have PE, students will come in their PE kits. Students are to wear Blazers.

Is there a staggered departure?

Yes, please see the times below. Once you have collected your child we ask that you please leave promptly.

3.10pm – 6th Form – Out of green gate
 - Yr 9 – Back stairs

3.15pm – Year 10 – Back Stairs
 - Year 8 – Front stairs

3.20pm – Year 7 – Back Stairs
 - Year 11 – Main reception

Will students have to bring equipment in with them?

Yes, and equipment is not to be shared with anyone else. We will not be using the lockers.

Are the school coaches running?

Yes. The school is also asking that, where possible, Thandi Executive provide double-decker vehicles for the upcoming year so that it might be possible to allocate seats that have students in years 10, 11, 12 and 13 on the top deck and students in years 7, 8 and 9 on the bottom deck - this will be very helpful in trying to maintain group 'bubbles'

What will happen in the event of a local or national lockdown?

We will revert back to providing students with an online curriculum. This will be through either Edmodo or Microsoft Teams. School will provide regular updates through letters, Facebook and the school website. Please see the links below;

<https://www.facebook.com/nishkamhighschool/>

<https://www.nishkamschooltrust.org/nhsb/page/?title=Coronavirus+Update&pid=774>