



MILTON
ABBEY



RETURNING TO MILTON ABBEY
Our plans for **Michaelmas Term 2020**

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It is a real pleasure to be writing with details of our plans for return to the school site. I know from my conversations with many of you that your children are ready to get back to school life and we are very much looking forward to welcoming them back to our beautiful site.

During the site closure and the running of our MOLE programme, Milton Abbey students proved themselves to be creative, resilient, thoughtful and determined young people – sometimes surprising themselves with just what they were able to achieve, despite the circumstances. Their teachers have worked tirelessly with them to keep their love of learning alive and to ensure that, in the months away from school, they kept a real sense of community. Our end of year celebrations, reviewing exceptional achievements, in and beyond the virtual classroom, made me a very proud Head indeed!

Throughout the summer, we have been working here on site to prepare for the pupils' return. We are focusing of course on their physical health and wellbeing, but also on the pupil experience and what it will be like to return to school with the COVID-safe arrangements in place. We want our returning pupils' experience to be as close as possible to the Milton Abbey experience they know and love and we want new pupils to settle well and quickly, finding their place in their new school. With your help, we also need to manage their expectations and prepare them for the term ahead.

As we return, there will be new challenges ahead. The school your children are returning to will be the same warm, kind, welcoming and stimulating place it always has been. Ensuring we are COVID-safe means that there will be changes, however. These might be physical changes, such as a new one-way system in the boarding house or a new dining space. There will be new rules and expectations, to encompass social distancing requirements and to ensure that we operate safely, reducing risks as far as is possible. We are producing video information and training for your child to see prior to return, so that new arrangements and expectations are clear.



We are also likely to be making some changes to boarding house allocations, in order to accommodate the new ways in which we have to use our space. We will do our best to keep you informed in advance of any major changes planned to your child's arrangements. As I am sure you will understand we are also going to rely on your understanding that flexibility is going to be required of all as we head into the new term.

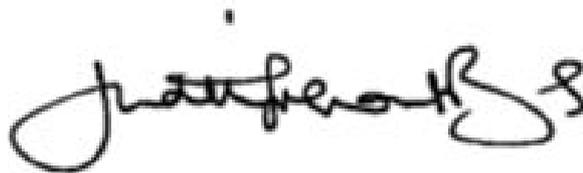
This Return Plan is designed to answer many of the questions you may have but if you have further questions or comments related to the Return Plan, please:

- **write to the Senior Deputy Head, Matthew Porter, who is coordinating our Return Plan on matthew.porter@miltonabbey.co.uk or**
- **join us at one of our parent webinars on the 27th of August and 3rd of September, where we will be able to answer questions sent in advance or asked live during the session.**

Extensive risk assessment and discussion has gone into our plans and we will be reviewing our arrangements regularly, to ensure they are fit for purpose and in response to national and local guidance, which is subject to frequent change. We will welcome any thoughts or ideas you may wish to share as part of that process.

We are conscious that the last few months have been particularly challenging for some of our students. If there is something you need us to know about your child's experience or wellbeing, or are concerned about, please do share this with your Housemaster or Housemistress, or Ruth Butler, Deputy Head Pastoral, on ruth.butler@miltonabbey.co.uk. We have always valued our partnership with you but never more so than in the past term. On behalf of all the team here, my thanks to you all for your support and encouragement.

With very best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Judith Fremont-Barnes', with a small dot above the 'i'.

Judith Fremont-Barnes



THE CONTEXT FOR OUR RETURN PLAN

The situation regarding COVID-19 is fluid and dynamic, with daily changes to guidance requiring flexible response in circumstances which have few precedents.

Milton Abbey held its first Coronavirus risk assessment and response planning meeting in late January 2020 and the MA COVID-19 Critical Incident Team (including representatives from the academic, pastoral, health centre, operations, IT, finance, administrative and communications departments) has met frequently since that date. Our leadership team has been supported and scrutinised in its decision-making by our governing body, with regular briefings and extraordinary meetings throughout the pandemic period.

Our risk assessment has been informed by extensive and continuing review of the extensive guidance available to the school from a variety of UK government departments including the Department for Education, the Department for Health, the Health and Safety Executive, and is supplemented by advice from sources including: the Boarding Schools Association, Society of Heads, Independent Schools Bursars Association and the World Health Organisation.

Milton Abbey's COVID-19 risk assessment, CORA, identifies potential hazards, and the control measures required to prevent identified hazards. The document will be reviewed on a weekly basis during the first half of the Michaelmas Term and will be updated whenever advice, circumstances, or any of the assessed risk factors are seen to have changed.

With a day, boarding, UK and international pupil body, residential staff and families, and non-residential staff and contractors, the Milton Abbey community has a complex set of needs which have required detailed consideration prior to site opening. For the purposes of this risk assessment it has been necessary to consider a number of scenarios for our operation in Michaelmas Term 2020, ranging from attendance of all pupils and staff, boarding and day, through to a completely remote operation.

We are intending to open fully for day and boarding pupils, with COVID-19 precautions in place.

The uncertain nature of the pandemic means that further interruptions to on-site education, while wholly undesirable, are possible. In line with government guidance, Milton Abbey also has plans in place to respond to any 'local lockdown' and the rapid closure of the school should this be required

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

It is important to note that no approach can guarantee absolute protection from the COVID-19 virus, and 'perfect' social distancing is impossible in a boarding school environment. **Our measures seek to reduce, rather than to eliminate, risk.**

While our MOLE (remote learning) programme has been very successful, we believe that students belong at school with their peers and teachers, learning in person, where this is safely possible.

Milton Abbey is aware of and committed to undertaking its core obligations to ensure the welfare, health and safety of its pupils, staff, residents and visitors, and its obligation to risk assess and implement relevant control measures where the risk concerned cannot be mitigated. We are signatories of the **BSA COVID-Safe Charter**.

In all decisions made throughout the planning process, consideration of the safety, health and wellbeing of our children, families, our staff and wider community is uppermost. We also aim to ensure that, whatever adjustments are necessary to achieve the safety, health and wellbeing of all, the experience of pupils is positive and as close as possible to normal, in line with the core aims and values of a Milton Abbey education.

In reaching decisions about risk management, the school is mindful of the need to balance delivering a broad and balanced curriculum and the wellbeing of our pupils with the measures needed to manage risk.

Consideration has been given to how to reduce contacts and maximise distancing between those in school wherever possible and minimise potential for infection.

All schools have different communities, accommodation, curricula, staff and pupil requirements and our planning has been specific to Milton Abbey within the published guidance.

We have sought and taken into account the views of pupils, staff, parents and Governors in our planning and will continue to depend on all members of the community to give us feedback on the plans in operation so that we can make any necessary adjustments.



WHAT KIND OF PREPARATIONS HAVE BEEN GOING ON?



All classrooms and learning areas have been audited by the Deputy Head Academic and Head of Operations to allow for a safe learning environment, including the reconfiguring of furniture, designation of spaces for teachers and pupils, access and ventilation requirements; teachers are 'COVID-safing' their classrooms, reducing unnecessary furnishings and stored materials



Our timetable and class grouping arrangements have been reviewed by the Deputy Head Academic to ensure that where possible, consistent with a broad and balanced curriculum, and our individual approach to educational need, contacts are minimised



Corridors and common areas have been reviewed and where possible one-way systems or queueing/distancing signage added as appropriate



The Deputy Head Pastoral and Housemasters and Housemistresses have audited boarding accommodation to prepare for a safe living environment, including careful consideration of rooming and bathroom requirements, 'traffic' flow and one-way systems and the use of common spaces



Enhanced hygiene and cleaning procedures have been developed, including the installation of new handwashing and hand sanitisation spaces throughout the site, the purchase of a 'Toucan' cleaning materials machine, the enhancement of cleaning protocols and the use of antiviral products



Requirements for all aspects of community life (including dining, social experience, medical care, assembly and meetings, transport) have been reviewed with necessary adjustments to the programme



Sport and Activities programmes have been reviewed and reconfigured by the Deputy Head Co-curricular, working with the Director of Sport, to ensure a balance of risk reduction with a meaningful and engaging programme of physical and co-curricular activities



Extensive staff training in every area of COVID-safe school operation has been undertaken during site closure; training is being provided for returning staff and pupils to prepare for the new arrangements, and to ensure all expectations and protocols are understood and implemented



The Senior Deputy Head and Head of Operations have had the chance to visit both residential military bases and local schools to share best practice from contexts operating social distancing and COVID-safe measures

REDUCING RISK



Health Information and Planning Prior to Site Return

All of our pupils, staff and any necessary visitors are being asked to fill in a Health Questionnaire prior to their return or visit to site. Nobody who has symptoms of COVID-19 will be given permission to enter the school site.

The Health Questionnaire will also enable us to establish a COVID-CARE plan for each pupil, providing advance information of where each child would self-isolate in the event of a positive test, either at school or at an agreed UK address.



Quarantine

From the weekend of the 5th September, we will be holding a quarantine session for all of our overseas-resident pupils who require quarantine under UK government guidance current at that time. This will take place within our existing boarding accommodation but separate from all other members of the school community. This allows quarantined pupils to return to the wider community healthy, integrated into school life and ready for the term ahead. During the quarantine period, students will have a bespoke timetable, with a blend of independent study tasks and remote attendance at their scheduled lessons. Their pastoral and physical exercise needs will be catered for carefully during this period.

Any UK resident pupil or staff member who requires self-isolation following return (e.g. from holiday) from a country not on the UK 'exempt' list, must follow UK government guidelines and isolate for the recommended time before entering the school site.





Social Distancing and Minimising Contact

Throughout the main school site, where there is the potential for boarders, day pupils, resident and non-resident staff and visitors to come into contact with each other, a number of measures have been put in place to minimise contact. These include staggered access to the Abbots Hall for meal times, restricting non-essential visitors, a separate day house for day pupils, restricting staff access to boarding houses and social architecture, such as removal of furniture and creation of signed one way systems in areas where social distancing is difficult to maintain.

Social distancing will be in operation throughout the main school site. There will be 'one-way' systems around the Mansion Block, transition areas around classrooms and around the Abbots Hall. There will be social distancing in all classrooms, and all learning activities will take place in a socially distanced environment with desks set front-facing and at 1m distance from others. Bathrooms will be designated to users and will operate a limited occupancy; access to common spaces will be restricted and in many cases used on a rota basis.

In boarding houses, which will identify as a household, there will still be 'sensible distancing' measures in place. It is not possible in this environment to ensure formal distancing at all times but pupils will still be encouraged to restrict physical contact, maintain good hygiene practices and to remain sensibly distant from one another e.g. when in common spaces.

Boarding houses (our households) have been organised so that only specific boarders have access to specific areas of the house. Year groups within boarding houses will be restricted to specific bathrooms, boarders across year groups will not be permitted to access the rooms of boarders in other year groups. Common areas will be cleaned 'in and out', i.e. before and after use by each user. There will also be 'maximum capacity' signage for bathrooms and common spaces, further mitigating the risk of transmission.

With these measures in place, the internal 'track and trace' process to identify 'contacts' when a pupil presents as symptomatic and / or is a confirmed case of COVID-19 will be straightforward, and any restrictions will impact on as few pupils as possible.

In the first half of the Michaelmas Term, visits to the site will be restricted and allowed only where deemed necessary by the Senior Deputy Head or Head of Operations. Educational visits off site are not being planned for the first half of Michaelmas, and will only be permitted with the Senior Deputy Head's authorisation.



Enhanced Hygiene and Cleaning

Handwashing remains the 'gold standard' in the aim to maintain high standards of hygiene and mitigate the risk of transmission of COVID-19. Staff and pupils will receive further training to this end, and signage throughout the school will reinforce this. Additional hand washing facilities have been placed at strategic places throughout the school, and additional hand sanitising points have been created where hand washing facilities are not possible or practical.

All lessons and activities where there is practical activity / demonstration or the use of shared equipment will have specific risk assessment, with any necessary measures taught to pupils.

All housekeeping staff have undertaken additional training on our deep cleaning protocol, and on a two-step cleaning process, 'Clean then Screen or Steam'. All staff follow a clearly defined checklist, detailing their use of PPE, identification of high frequency touch points, and the process of cleaning a given area from entry to the area, through cleaning to a safe exit from the cleaned area.

All teaching and residential staff will receive training, so that they fully understand the processes being used in their areas and throughout the school. Staff and pupils will adopt a 'Clean in and clean out' approach to their spaces and equipment (e.g. wiping their desk space on arrival in class and on departure), and the concept of 'self-clean' will be promoted across the staff and pupil body to augment these processes. All learning and boarding areas will have bespoke cleaning 'tubs' to facilitate this.



The use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

At the time of writing it is our intention to have face coverings worn in 'communal' areas (such as corridors, and during lesson transitions) for the first two weeks of term for all pupils and staff. However, this will remain under review.

Any pupil or staff member who would prefer to wear PPE (for example a face covering) for the entire school day will be able to do so. All pupil face coverings will be provided by the school.

Enhanced PPE will be worn by housekeeping and catering teams according to the individual risk assessment of their tasks, and by any staff member attending to a pupils where social distancing cannot be maintained (for example Matrons administering medication, Health Centre staff assessing and treating pupils and the administering of essential first aid).



'Households' at Milton Abbey

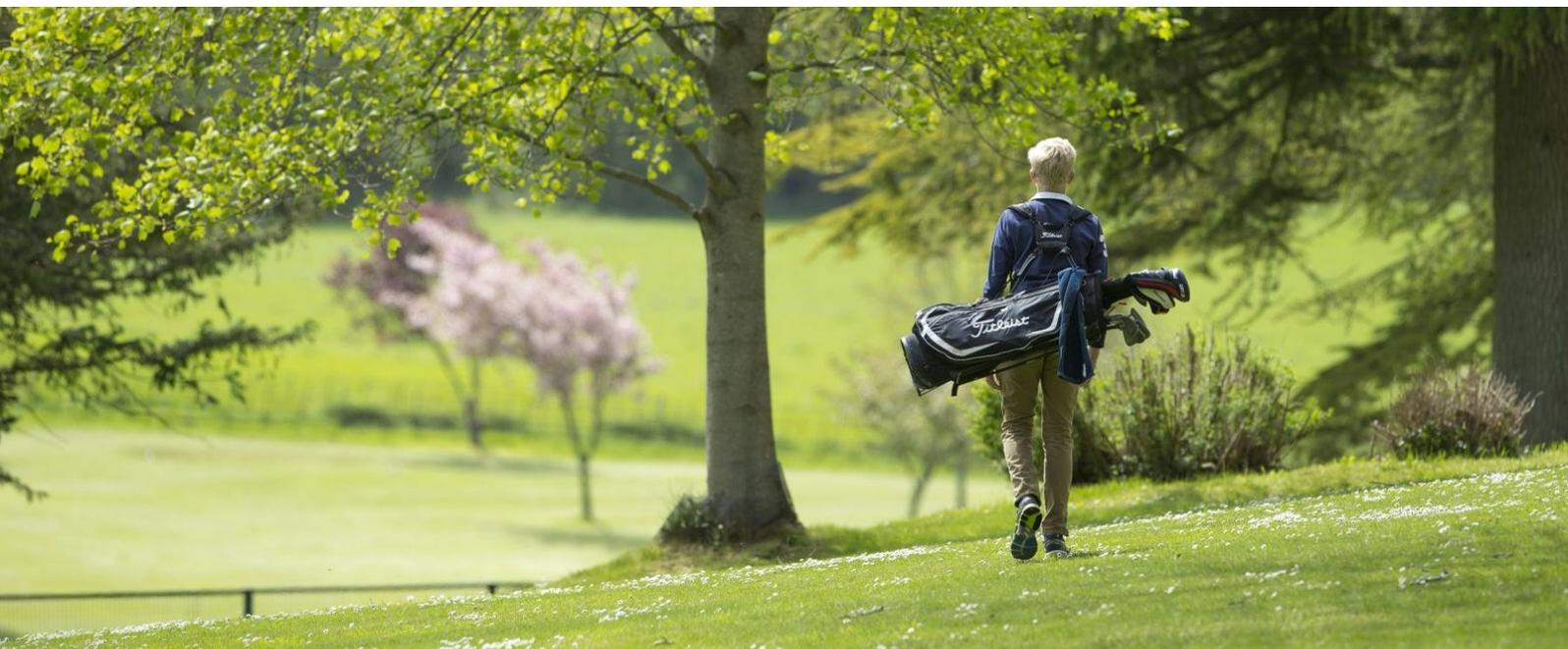
When we reopen in September, each boarding house will be considered a 'household'. Bubbles may be further defined within this household (based on e.g. shared dorms or corridors, or the shared use of a bathroom facility).

In accordance with 'Guidance for full opening of schools', 7th August 2020 and 'Coronavirus (COVID-19): guidance on isolation for residential education settings' 20th July 2020, robust social distancing measures and enhanced cleaning and hygiene routines will be in place throughout the main site of the school, and learning areas; sensible distancing measures and enhanced cleaning and hygiene routines will be in place throughout boarding houses.

This allows us to reduce unnecessary contact, keeping groups separate and distanced as much as possible but at the same time keeping the boarding house community (a vital support network and social network) central to pupils' experience.

Day pupils will be accommodated in a new, temporary Day House, based in the New Barn Theatre. This will be their base on arrival and prior to collection from school, as well as during breaks and lunch. Social distancing rules will be in operation in the Day House.

Day pupils will attend lessons, sport and activities with their boarding peers. They remain valued members of their named boarding houses and will join their House activities remotely, but will not be permitted to enter boarding houses until further notice. We will ensure that day pupils feel as engaged as possible in House life and they will be provided with supervised opportunities to socialise with their peers on a rota basis. Unfortunately no occasional overnight boarding can be accommodated until further notice.



HOW WILL WE MANAGE SUSPECTED OR CONFIRMED CASES OF COVID-19?

Pupils will be instructed to inform the nearest member of staff if they feel unwell at any time.

Pupils who self-identify, or are identified by staff, as having a symptom or symptoms consistent with COVID-19, namely:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss of, or change to, sense of smell or taste

will be isolated (e.g. in Matron's office) while the Health Centre Team are alerted.

Any day pupil with symptoms will remain in isolation until they are collected and returned home.

Any boarding pupil who is tested for COVID-19 will be isolated whilst we await the test result and the pupils in their boarding house / boarding house 'bubble' will self-isolate in House and participate in lessons remotely. If the test returns a negative result (we have been told to expect this should be within 48 hours), all pupils will resume lessons and school life as previously.

In the unlikely event that the test result is positive, the pupil's COVID-19 plan (created from the details gained from the Health Questionnaire) will be enacted, with the pupil either returning home or being cared for in isolation at school. We recognise that this will be a worrying time for pupils and their parents and will attend closely to pastoral as well as medical needs, ensuring regular communications with parents.

The rest of their boarding house / bubble will continue in isolation until the 14-day period is completed. Our Health Centre has a limited capacity to house large numbers of patients for a prolonged period of time. In order to maintain our capacity to deal with symptomatic cases, it will almost always be our preference that any pupil who tests positive and is able to do so should return home or to a UK guardian (as recorded by parents in advance in the Health Questionnaire) for their period of isolation.

The best interests of the pupil will be paramount. We have plans in place to accommodate any pupils who, in exceptional circumstances, cannot return to a UK home address for isolation.

The Senior Nurse and Health Centre Manager, Dave Bennetts, continues to work closely with the excellent GP Surgery in Milton Abbas to ensure that any measures we take are in line with their guidance and expectations. Staff have been provided with a flowchart setting out the management of symptomatic pupils and any confirmed cases. This will ensure that any suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 is treated and cared for appropriately, with the minimum disruption to the smooth running of the wider school.

Following a pupil's return home, a member of the Academic Team will be in touch with parents or guardian to discuss remote learning requirements for any pupil well enough to continue education during isolation. Catch-up arrangements will be put in place on their return for any pupils who have missed substantial school time as a result of isolation absence or illness.

How will we be engaging with NHS (National Health Service) Test and Trace service?

Any tracking and tracing that is necessary within the school in the event of a member of our community presenting with symptoms will follow the necessary compliance processes laid out by the NHS. According to the advice we have been given by Public Health England, we will be using NHS testing as directed by our local GP surgery, not private 'at home' tests or testing companies.

CURRICULUM & LEARNING

We will be providing, in line with our Aims and the UK Government guidance, a full and standard curriculum for all our pupils on their return to Milton Abbey. There may be aspects of 'blended learning' for some pupils (e.g. should they or their subject teacher need to isolate) but it is our intention to run our classes in person and on a standard timetable where possible.

Our PSHE curriculum has been adapted to take into account the need to focus on a resilient return. We will be sensitive to the need some pupils may have to discuss their pandemic experiences but equally that the majority are likely to benefit from return to the regular routines of school life.

At present we have limited details of any proposed changes to next year's public examination series. We will continue to communicate with parents of pupils due to sit examinations in Summer 2021 as we receive further information. For now the focus is on ensuring that all students settle back quickly into the routines of in-person education and demonstrate the 'commitment to learning' expected of all Milton Abbey pupils.

In the first few weeks of term, teachers will assess students to see whether any gaps in learning or in confidence need attention and any additional sessions or classes required will be planned. You will be contacted if your child is identified as requiring any significant support beyond the standard provision.

TERM DATES

Boarding pupils will return on **Sunday 6th September**, with day pupils joining on **Monday 7th September**.

Following our earlier decision not to publish Exeat dates for this term, we can now confirm that we are not intending to break for Exeat in the first half of term. We are aware of the pupils' need for some relaxation mid-way through a busy 'half' and will be making some alterations to our daily programme at this mid-point; further details will be provided. A decision over an Exeat in the second half of term will be taken by November 1st. In order to minimise external social contact, no 'floating Exeats' can be granted before then.

We recognise that there will be parents who wish to see their children on site during the first half of term. Those who wish to do so must please apply to the Senior Deputy Head who will where possible arrange for a socially distanced visit to take place from Week 4 onwards. We do ask parents to understand that we may not always be able to grant such requests and that the need to keep the wider school community safe must be paramount. Please understand that we know that this will be a real challenge for some children and their parents; please keep in touch with your HSM if this presents particular problems for your family.





BEYOND THE CLASSROOM



Sport

The provision of a challenging, stimulating sport programme is vital for our young people, some of whom have had restrictions on their physical activity during site closure.

Games and activities will continue within their timetabled slots but will be subject to precautionary measures and restrictions which will include social distancing. Games will be played in age appropriate house groups to minimise contacts. **In the first half of the Michaelmas Term, there will be no contact sport and no traditional fixtures.**

In addition to their core games session, a second sport session has been added on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday afternoons. This will allow us to give pupils the best possible experiences of team sports, whilst still allowing those who prefer other pursuits to opt for individual sports such as golf, road cycling and mountain biking.

All sports activities will be planned in light of the COVID-19 guidance provided by the national bodies, adapted to be appropriate and safe for our context – we are not aiming to mirror the experience of elite level sport that pupils might have seen on the TV!

In terms of equipment for the Michaelmas Term, in addition to the uniform list for Michaelmas sport, **girls and boys will be able to play hockey and cricket this term, so please bring in your kit!**



Activities

We are planning to continue our rich programme of evening activities in the term ahead. Teachers attached to Houses will still be running our evening activity programme with the input of student leaders, creating a diverse programme to enrich the boarding experience.

The CCF and Duke of Edinburgh programmes will resume, and further information will be provided to pupils and parents of those who need to 'catch up' an expedition for their awards, later in the term. While it will not be possible for us to undertake some traditional service centres, such as coaching at local primary schools, we will provide safe alternatives.

The opportunity for supervised social time will be provided as part of the Activity Programme, on a rota basis.

WHAT WILL LIFE BE LIKE FOR PUPILS?

Prior to the return to school, we will produce and distribute a number of visual guides, so that everyone can return confident in what to expect. Below are some of the changes your child can expect to see on return to school. It would be helpful if you could discuss **these changes, which will apply to all pupils**, with your child:

- Your staff will be relying on your common sense, good will and community spirit to do your part to keep yourself, your friends and all in our community safe and well
- Social distancing will be required around the site during and between lessons and activities
- Hand sanitiser and tissues will need to be carried at all times
- Some one-way routes will have been introduced – clear signage and training will be given
- Regular reminders will be issued to wash hands or use sanitiser where this is not possible
- Careful packing of a wipeable bag with all equipment needed for lessons and no unnecessary items
- No personal deliveries will be allowed – essential items only will be ordered by matrons
- Games kit will be worn as daily uniform to ease laundry pressures at home and school
- No sharing or lending of belongings or personal equipment will be allowed
- Large gatherings such as Assemblies and Chapels will take place in a virtual form as they did during the MOLE programme (with, for example, one house attending, socially distanced, in person). Pupils will participate remotely using their devices, but remaining in house bases
- Tutoring is likely to take place remotely
- Light cleaning of areas used before and after use (e.g. desk space) will be supervised
- Visits to the Health Centre will be virtual in the first instance, via House Team offices
- Seating plans in lessons and meal times, to minimise contact and support contact-tracing
- Choices at meal times will be more limited, and all must order in advance, to minimise queuing
- Queues will be kept to a minimum, and when queuing is necessary social distancing will be enforced
- Pupils will be instructed not to gather outside classrooms or between lessons but to maintain social distance as they progress around the site
- Pupils will be expected to be in, or en-route to, a supervised activity or under the supervision of their boarding house or day house team at all times; authorisation from the Housemaster or Housemistress will be required for any other movement about the site
- No 'floating Exeats' or absence requests will be granted in the first half of the Michaelmas Term
- Additional social opportunities and social spaces on site are being developed in conjunction with the student leadership team
- No cash will be needed and any in pupil's possession (e.g. used during travel) must be handed in on arrival to house staff
- Access to the Tuck Shop (including Farm Shop products) will be available, but on a rota basis



Additional changes for day pupils:

- A desk for each day pupil will be provided in the NBT (New Barn Theatre) which will act as a day pupil base
- Day pupils will be assigned to the temporary Day House, but will remain part of their named boarding house and will attend house events virtually
- Day pupils will be taught alongside their boarding peers in normal lessons, physically distanced at 1m from peers and 2m from teachers
- Opportunities to socialise with their peers will be provided on a supervised rota basis
- Day pupils will 'pre-order' meals and eat in the New Barn Theatre
- Day pupils' parents will be asked to park outside the New Barn Theatre and remain in their cars while they drop off and pick up
- Day pupils should arrive between 08:00 and 08:20
- Day pupils departure time will be after the 17:00 call over (from 17:15)
- Day pupils will unfortunately not be able to arrive early for breakfast or stay late and attend supper



Additional changes for boarders:

- Staggered wake up, call over and breakfast
- Boarders will be told which bathrooms they are to use and must stick to these
- Some facilities, such as Common Rooms, may need to be used on a rota basis
- Breakfast will be provided in house, with houses eating in the Abbots Hall on a rota, to allow for a distanced house meeting in the space following breakfast
- Movement to and from, and dining within the Abbots Hall will require social distancing, and one-way systems. There will be enhanced staff presence to ensure pupils adhere to this.
- There will be two separate sittings for lunch and dinner, with houses either eating in the Abbott's Hall, or the Princes and King's Room.
- There will be a reduced level of contact points in the Abbots Hall, as trays and cutlery will be handed to pupils, and food will be served as plated options
- Meals will be eaten in good time, and departure will be managed by staff via the pre-published one-way systems
- Evening snacks will be provided if house kitchens need to be put out of bounds

WHAT YOUR CHILD WILL NEED TO BRING BACK

The measures we are putting in place require a slightly different approach in a number of areas, and at their core, some additional personal responsibility for both the day pupils and boarders. Therefore, there are some additional items that we would ask pupils return to school with to help minimise the risk of transmission, and keep them safe, and ready to learn:

- Bag with shoulder strap or rucksack to carry equipment during lessons – it must of a kind that can be wiped down or sprayed with disinfectant spray and leaves hands free for sanitising
- Reducing the need for shared items, the school will provide a small stationery kit to pupils - including pens, ruler, highlighters and a small geometry set - however, please return pupils to school with as many, named items as possible (such as a calculator)
- A small refillable bottle of hand sanitiser - the School will provide refill hand sanitiser dispensers around the campus
- A device for learning (minimum 12” screen laptop with keyboard and web camera, preferably Windows 10 or iOS equivalent), with named charger and named headphones
- A named water bottle
- Tissues

Additional items for boarders:

- 2 x additional towels (named)
- their personal pillow (named)
- photographs or posters to decorate boarding space

We ask that your child does NOT bring back to school:

- soft (non-wipeable) furnishings (e.g. bean bags, cushions, soft toys)
- cash (other than necessary for travel, balance to be handed to HSM)

Please note that we will NOT be permitting pupil deliveries other than letters in the first half of Michaelmas Term. Uniform and essential items only can be ordered on your behalf via Matrons.

A CHANGE IN UNIFORM

As a practical measure, we anticipate **starting the Michaelmas Term 2020 with the pupils in Milton Abbey Sports Kit**. These items are easier to launder quickly at a higher temperature, and allow for a greater capacity in our laundry, and greater frequency of wash days for all items in houses.

It is essential that all pupils return to school with a full complement of up to date games kit, to wear throughout the school day. The existing kit list specifies as essential:

- Yellow / Black crested Puffer Jacket
- School Tracksuit Bottoms
- Training T-Shirt in Gold
- Training T-Shirt in Black
- School reversible rugby shirt
- Shorts

Please send boarders back to school with **at least 3 'Training T-Shirts'** in either Black or Gold and **at least 2 School reversible rugby shirts**. For day pupils, the quantities recommended on the uniform list should suffice but your child will need a change of sports kit at school daily.

Please note that your child requires all the usual specified uniform set out on our Uniform List. These items should be sent back, with name tags, when boarding pupils return in September. As usual, all items can be ordered at schoolblazer.com



FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

- The success of all or any of these measures relies on personal responsibility, self-discipline and high standards of community behaviour.
- We would hope that as the term progresses, we will be able to review our precautions and restrictions and, in keeping with guidance, return to as much of normal school life as we can; we will keep you informed of any major changes and you can expect a brief weekly communication during the first half of term.
- We were so proud of the way that our pupils rose to the challenges of the early period of the school closure, and were delighted in how these carried on to an exceptional period of remote learning. We will be introducing an annex to our Pupil Behaviour Policy with specific reference to COVID-19, however we remain confident that the pupils will rise to the challenge and adjust sensibly to the new arrangements.



QUERIES & COMMENTS

- School life is varied and complex and it is of course not possible to answer all questions you may have in this format.
- Please contact Matthew Porter, Senior Deputy Head, with any queries or comments regarding this Return Plan on matthew.porter@miltonabbey.co.uk.
- We value your feedback and will take your views into consideration during our dynamic planning process.





MILTON
ABBEY