



# COWLEY

## INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE

### Returning to Cowley in March 2021 - FAQs

**Is Cowley going to open in March for all students?**

Yes – There will be staggered start for students starting Monday 8<sup>th</sup>. Students will be required to come in on their allocated testing time schedule on the website shortly.

[Return To College Hub | March 2021 | \(cowley.st-helens.sch.uk\)](#)

**Where can I find information about return to Cowley?**

There is a dedicated page on the website with all key information, assemblies and documents.

[Return To College Hub | March 2021 | \(cowley.st-helens.sch.uk\)](#)

**Is uniform required for Y7-11?**

Yes – Full uniform is required including a bag. Please use the checklist provided on the website.

[Parent-Checklist.pdf \(cowley.st-helens.sch.uk\)](#)

**Is the College COVID secure?**

Yes – the College has completed a risk assessment and following all guidance set out by the DfE and LA.

**My child is shielding, or self-isolating, must they return to college?**

Please contact the year team. The plan is for all students to return in March. The DfE guidance states “*we now know much more about coronavirus (COVID-19) and so in future there will be far fewer children and young people advised to shield whenever community rates are high. Therefore, the majority of pupils will be able to return to school*”

**My child/I am worried about returning, what can we do to help?**

Please talk to your child to deal with any misconceptions and concerns. Up to 120 students have been coming into college each day since January. The students have welcomed this time and enjoyed the opportunity. The year teams will also be able to help, please contact the school if you need support.

**Will buses will be running?**

Yes – Buses will be running. However, it is advised that public transport is avoided if possible (this is not a reason for not attending college). Face coverings must be worn.

**How can the college manage students contact before and after college?**

We expect students to follow all the required social distancing guidelines on their journeys to and from college. We also expect parents to support this social responsibility. Students should not be visiting other’s houses or shops on the way to school or on the way home.

**What equipment will my child need to bring each day?**

Students will need to bring all the standard required equipment, including a bag, pens, pencils, ruler, calculator, planner (provided on first day), PE kit (on days where students have PE/Games – no hoodies, blazer over PE Kit). Please use the checklist provided.

[Parent-Checklist.pdf \(cowley.st-helens.sch.uk\)](#)

**Will students be in their usual teaching groups?**

The timetable from term 1 before Christmas will continue.

**How will breaks and lunches work?**

The breaks and lunches will run as we did before Christmas. Year groups will have separate breaks and lunches.

**How will the college support students to be well behaved and follow the new routines?**

Cowley has very high standards in behaviour and these will remain. The fundamental rule at Cowley is to “follow staff instructions”. The college and Governing body will not tolerate any poor behaviour and actions that put students, staff and families at risk during these times while we try to control the virus.

**Will students have to wear face coverings?**

We expect all students to wear face coverings in line with Government recommendations. This now includes, in lessons where social distancing cannot be maintained. Students will not be required to wear face coverings while eating food in the canteen, outside at break and lunch and during PE and dance practical lessons.

**How do I know if my child is exempt from wearing a face covering?**

The more people wearing face coverings, the safer we will be. Students who are medically exempt will need approval from the year team and an exemption badge. They have a responsibility to keep their distance from students and staff where possible.

**What if my child suffers from asthma?**

The doctors and consultants at Asthma UK state that asthma sufferers can wear face coverings.

**What if my child comes to college without a face covering?**

Please continue to check equipment and uniform before your child leaves for college each day. We do have a small amount reusable face coverings that students can buy for £1 each.

**What if my child is absent?**

We expect students to be in every day. The target is at least 97% attendance. We have a great deal of learning to do and therefore full attendance is required. The standard attendance and absence procedures commence from 8<sup>th</sup> March. If your child displays COVID-19 symptoms, then we start the test and trace procedures and isolate certain students following Public Health England guidance.

**How will testing take place at Cowley?**

Testing has worked well at Cowley since we started in January. The 120 students currently in college have been regularly tested and managed this procedure very well. All students will be tested on their first day back in college and then regularly after that. Please complete the consent form and return this to college.

The Government’s plan is for students to do this test at home later in the term. We are looking at ways we can help students and parents with this. Please see the website for more information on testing at Cowley.

[Return To College Hub | March 2021 | \(cowley.st-helens.sch.uk\)](#)

**What will learning look like during the first week?**

Once the first test is completed, timetables will be followed as normal. While your child is waiting for their return date, they will continue their learning as staff will be setting work and assignments through MS Teams.

**What if my child is currently in college in the key worker and vulnerable student bubbles?**

These students will continue to attend college each day at their normal time. When their year group returns, they will then join that year group and their normal lessons.