**ASFA Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**

Below, we have put together responses to our most common FAQs. We hope that you find them useful. If you have a question which hasn’t been answered below, please email us at info@asfaonline.org or call us on 0151 260 7600. Feel free to leave a message if we aren’t able to take your call and someone will contact you.

**When are students are going back to school?**

We cannot wait to have our students back! However, all actions we take have to ensure that the safety of students and staff is paramount.

There is no set date for when students will be back in school. The academy’s decision is based on advice from the Government, Public Health England and the Local Authority.

As soon as we have an approved and supported plan for the reintegration of your child’s year group, we will contact you.

**Will students come back together or will there be a phased return?**

So far, we have welcomed Year 10 back in small groups. As said above, our plan depends on numerous factors. We do not know at the moment whether the next step will be phased return of a particular year group or all students back together.

Again, as soon as we have an approved and supported plan for the reintegration of your child’s year group, we will contact you.

**What steps are the school taking to make sure it is safe to return?**

Floors have been marked to ensure social distancing and a one way system is in place for as long as this is the advice from the Government. There are hand sanitising stations around the school. The number of occupants per room has been reduced and the amount of rooms used has been cut to a minimum to ensure social distancing in line with Government guidelines. Movement of staff and students is kept to a minimum to stop contamination of surfaces. The daily cleaning routine has been increased to ensure all handrails, door handles, toilets etc are cleaned and sanitised regularly during the occupancy period. All areas and rooms used are thoroughly cleaned and sanitised at the end of each day.

**Can students wear PPE when they return?**

Students will not be allowed to wear PPE when they return. This is in line with Government guidelines. The current provision for all students in the building ensures that they are able to be at least 2m from any other person at all times.

**How do I find out if I can claim Free School Meals?**

Visit <https://liverpool.gov.uk/benefits/free-school-meals/application-form/> where you can complete the application form. You will be given an instant decision.

**Ive been accepted to receive Free School Meals for my child. How long will I have to wait until I receive the vouchers from the academy?**

The academy receives a list each week from the local authority. If your child’s name is on the list, you will start to receive weekly vouchers immediately. If you would like to check whether the academy has been informed of your acceptance, please ring 0151 260 7600 between 10am and 12pm or email info@asfaonline.org Please ensure that you have your claim number when you call.

**I have a question about how to use my Free School Meal voucher.**

The vouchers are issued by the Government through a company called Edenred. Please click on their document below which will explain how to use your vouchers.

<https://www.edenred.co.uk/Documents/DfE/DfE_FreeSchoolMeals_ParentCarerFAQs.pdf>

**I have a problem with my Free School Meal voucher.**

We are sorry to hear this. Unfortunately, the academy do not issue the voucher, we only send them to you. The vouchers are issued by the Government through a company called Edenred. Please click on their document below which will advise you what to do if you’re having issues.

<https://www.edenred.co.uk/Documents/DfE/DfE_FreeSchoolMeals_ParentCarerFAQs.pdf>

**When will the Free School Meal vouchers end?**

We know that the Government have agreed to continue issuing the vouchers over the summer holidays. We will be issuing a £90 voucher to each child eligible to receive FSM to cover the summer holidays during the week commencing 13.07.20.

**Will my child be supported next academic year with learning they’ve missed?** Yes, we are planning to revisit key information needed as a bridging curriculum. Subject leaders are busy preparing plans to ensure all essential content and skills are revisited at the beginning of the year to bridge gaps in learning. Also, we are pre-preparing all knowledge organisers and your child will receive this to support them in class and at home.

**My child is lacking confidence and is worried they’ll be far behind their peers in September.** All of our staff are fully prepared for the fact that students will return to us in September at different starting points. All students have been given learning logs for each of their subjects for their learning before and after lockdown. It’s important that your child completes this as honestly as possible and bring these with them when they return in September. Our staff will review all prior learning and intelligence gained from this will be used to support your child in making rapid progress.

**Will my child be taught by all their timetabled subject teachers next academic year?** It is our hope that they will and as a school we are planning for a full opening in September. However, we cannot guarantee this as this stage until further guidance is released.

**Will my child be supported over the summer holidays to continue to catch up with missed provision?** Yes, all students will be provided with a summer learning pack for all of their subjects for them to continue their learning and prepare them for September.

**My child will be in year 11 next academic year, will their GCSE exams be shortened?** The exam boards are now in consultation regarding the content for next year and are taking feedback at present on what school professionals feel is fair and equitable.

**My child will be in year 11 next year and I’m worried that their success will have been affected by this situation.** All of year 10s have been offered a one to one meeting with a staff member to review their progress and concerns and some face to face teaching time with their subject teachers for English, maths, science and RE. These sessions will have given them guidance for over the summer break on what they can do for each subject area to prepare for September. If your child was shielding or self-isolating and missed these sessions, they will be prioritised in September for one to one meetings to assess their individual needs and provide support. However, learning packs will have been sent to them at home to complete.

**I have heard that year 11 may be extended with exams being taken in July 2021, is this right?** There’s been some talk about this in the press, however no official information has been given to schools regarding this, so at the moment this is not something we have planned for.