



## Guidance from the Department for Education (DfE)

I have written previously regarding the guidance published by the DfE (link below) and I include again, the headline points. The reason is I want to reassure parents and carers that the information in this letter and in the separate document illustrate that our plans ensure we are working in line with the expectations in the guidance which has been updated by Government: [gov.uk/backtoschool](https://www.gov.uk/backtoschool)

The headline statements from the DfE:

“Essential measures include:

- a requirement that people who are ill stay at home
- robust hand and respiratory hygiene
- enhanced cleaning arrangements
- active engagement with NHS Test and Trace
- formal consideration of how to reduce contacts and maximise distancing between those in school wherever possible and minimise potential for contamination so far as is reasonably practicable

How contacts are reduced will depend on the school's circumstances and will (as much as possible) include:

- grouping children together
- avoiding contact between groups
- arranging classrooms with forward facing desks
- staff maintaining distance from pupils and other staff as much as possible”

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>

## Uniform and appearance

Our expectation is that all pupils will wear our expected school uniform from September 2020 and have hair styles and colouring as published in our Pupil Planner:

UNIFORM	
Girls	Boys
Navy V-neck pullover with school badge	Navy V-neck pullover with school badge
Navy sweatshirt with school badge (Year 11 only)	Navy sweatshirt with school badge (Year 11 only)
White shirt with a collar suitable for a tie ( <b>no</b> polo shirts)	White shirt with a collar suitable for a tie ( <b>no</b> polo shirts)
School tie in year group colour, clipped to a buttoned collar	School tie in year group colour, clipped to a buttoned collar
Plain black tailored trousers	Plain black tailored trousers
<b>Unacceptable styles although not limited to:</b>	<b>Unacceptable styles although not limited to:</b>
Super skinny, hipster, riveted denim, canvas, jeans-style, cropped, ankle grazers, leggings, jeggings, treggings	Riveted denim, canvas, jeans-style
<b>or/</b> plain black skirt (non lycra or other stretchy fabric) worn with black opaque tights. The skirt should be no more than 7.5cm (3") above the knee	Plain dark socks that cover the ankle
	Plain black shoes with black soles
	Suitable winter outdoor coat

Plain dark socks that cover the ankle Plain black shoes with black soles Suitable winter outdoor coat Black hijab with year group colour trim (worn for religious reasons)	
<b>Summer term uniform (optional)</b>	
<b>Pupils may wear a navy polo shirt with school badge instead of a shirt, tie and pullover</b>	
<b>Please do not assume that if a retailer describes its range as 'school wear' that it matches our expectations. For example, many trousers with stretch material will not have a tailored appearance so may not meet our expectations. If there is any doubt, please see our website or contact the Year Team before purchasing uniform.</b>	

We understand there may be challenges for some families regarding the purchase of school uniform and as always, we will provide support, as necessary. I wish to thank all the families who supported us in our appeal for uniform.

We are aware that many pupils may have taken the opportunity during lockdown to significantly change the colour of their hair and its style so we ask that they focus on returning to school and making the choice to change the colour and style to avoid any challenge on return to school.

This is also true regarding facial piercings – we wish to remind pupils that to have a facial piercing that cannot be taken out during attendance at school, including tongue piercings, will lead to being challenged in school. Therefore, please make the right choices so you avoid being challenged.

### **Results Days**

The whole process of awarding grades at KS4 and KS5 has been a significant challenge for all schools and academies. As you would expect, we adhered to the Ofqual guidance in a strict manner to ensure our process was robust as headteachers and principals had been informed that we would be subject to scrutiny by Ofqual and Ofsted to ensure we did everything according to their guidance. Unfortunately, as you will be aware, the system was significantly changed to that which was published. We are clear that the system we put in place has integrity but I appreciate that a few of our pupils are disappointed with their result in some subjects and I am working with the Year Teams, our data teams, subject and faculty leaders to review individual cases.

At this time, I am unable to publish our Key Stage 4 outcomes as they are being finalised today – one week after the official date they should have been published. We had confirmation on Tuesday of the revised KS5 BTEC results and I attach with this letter a summative document (KS5 outcomes summary for parents and carers) that shows the positive outcomes for Titus Salt School at KS5. We are delighted with the results and they reflect the progress we have made at Sixth Form level over the previous two years. The data in the document highlights the unfairness on the Ofqual system as it would have been applied to our school.

I wish all our Year 13 pupils well as they progress onto the next steps in their lives to employment, university, college and apprenticeships and we look forward to hearing of their future success.

As I receive any further information, I will keep you updated. As is always the case, the situation is changing on a regular basis and making sense of the many documents of advice and guidance continues to be challenging. It is likely that as we go into the next phase of providing education in these challenging circumstances further challenges will present themselves. As always, we are keen to work with our parents and carers to find solutions to the problems and we will continue to do so.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our members of staff for their support and commitment – I have received many emails from parents and carers voicing their appreciation and thanks for all that they have done since March 2020. Also, I wish to take this opportunity to thank all parents and carers as you have had to adapt immediately to the challenge of home schooling alongside lockdown and essential services remaining open but together we appear to have got there – many thanks for your continued support. We are keen to get started on the new academic year and we are looking forward to welcoming our pupils back next week.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ian Morrel', written in a cursive style.

Ian Morrel  
Headteacher