



Mrs Alison Pope, Headteacher

St Martins School update 10 – SECONDARY - Friday 10 October 2025

Dear parents, carers and families of St Martins School secondary students,

Work in school has really started to move at pace: I want to thank our site team for their fantastic work co ordinating all the various contractors in school. I am very pleased to be able to confirm that we are in a position to be able to welcome some students back into our secondary phase starting next week.

Thank you again for the support you have offered your children, our staff and the school.

Below is the update for today – **I will issue a further update next week.**

- Secondary phase update
- Blended learning secondary
- Quinta attendees
- Free School Meals
- Car Park
- Reception

Secondary phase update

Secondary phase will be closed to some students, **Monday 13th – Friday 17th October.**

I am pleased to confirm that we will open a specific area of the secondary site to specific year groups next week, on certain days of the week – please note this is not a full Monday to Friday offer.

A detailed plan will be emailed out to parents. This will cover a range of some of their lessons. Emails will come via Arbor to specify your child/ward's plan for next week by 6pm tonight.

We have been able to connect the Maths/Humanities block, Food Room and part of MFL to utilities and other essential services that allow us to sign off the use of this part of the school. These areas have been reviewed by an external fire safety assessor and thoroughly cleaned. We will also be moving Quinta provision back to a school setting to work from the food technology classroom. Students will be able to re-join their year group when they are on site.

We have prepared a detailed plan that will keep students safe on the school site. Students will have a separate outdoor space to use at break times with full staff supervision. Toilet facilities will be available on a staffed rota basis and accessed in the sports centre.

I would like to stress and confirm that students will not have access to any part of the school site affected by the fire. The areas are boarded and sealed off to staff and students. Site safety was also assessed by a structural engineer. I understand that there were concerns around asbestos and have previously addressed this in my updates, but I want to reiterate that there was no asbestos present in the areas affected by the fire and therefore no contamination of the school site. The areas we are re-opening are also well away from this central point and were unaffected by the fire itself.



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Transport

For these face-to-face days, the school day will start at 9.30am and finish at 3.10pm. As our school transport provider are currently running services to North Shropshire College for our Year 11 provision, we need to confirm numbers for the bus companies.

In order to confirm your child's place for transport, please could you complete an online form. The link to this will be included in the email later today (via Arbor). Timings of the bus service will also be included in this email.

Those students who travel by the Arriva service bus will be escorted into school and will wait in food technology until lessons begin. The school minibus that picks up selected Year 7 in Gobowen will operate with adjusted times getting into Gobowen for just after 9am.

As our catering facilities are still being built, we will not be able to offer any food or drinks on site and therefore students must bring a packed lunch and drinks with them. Students who are in receipt of FSM will receive a voucher for the week and therefore must bring lunch with them.

Students will need to be in full school uniform, unless they have PE on their timetable. If they do have PE, they will be allowed to attend in their school PE kit to avoid having to change.

Parent consultation event – secondary only.

As with primary parents, I would like to meet you all as we start to re-open school. I have not been able to do this before Monday due to finding an appropriate venue. I am incredibly grateful to Moreton Hall school who are allowing us to use their Holroyd Theatre on Wednesday 15th October. There will be two presentations from me, one at 4.30 and one at 5.45pm, as the theatre may not have enough capacity for one. Please complete this form if you wish to attend the parent consultation event <https://forms.office.com/e/ATZSchQCWR>

Half term

There will be an update in the half term holiday about plans for reopening on the secondary site. I will be liaising with contractors who now have demountables on site, but the connection of water supplies to these buildings is the final element that still requires work. From an operational point of view school will also need a full review of the timetable and fire evacuation procedures before the site can fully re-open. We also need to give staff time to move back into their work spaces, to prepare to welcome back students as we did with primary. I am hopeful for a return during week commencing 4th November, but please be mindful that any movement in this date is beyond my control. I will give a clearer update at the end of the holiday period.

Year 11

Face to face teaching for year 11 continues at North Shropshire College but only for Monday and Wednesday next week. In the week after our half term break, the college have their own Maths and English exams and therefore need the rooms we have been using. If we are not fully open back on site we will communicate an alternative plan for Year 11, that week.



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Blended Learning secondary

Staff will continue to set Teams assignments and some live or pre-recorded lessons. The live lessons will need to fit in around year 11 face to face and our week of face to face at school next week

New blended learning timetables will be issued at the end of the weekend as these take one of my team a considerable amount of time to compile.

Quinta Attendees

Those students that have been accessing Quinta on Thursday and today will be moved to our school site. Their area will be the Food Technology room.

Car Parks

Use of car park for PRIMARY parents will be 8.45 – 9.00am, with SECONDARY from 9.15am -9.30am, please keep to these times. We would prefer you to walk or car share wherever possible. Please do not park in bus stops as these will be used. Buses will be coming on site as normal. Please be careful using the car park, there are contractors, please do not park by sports centre. Use of the car park is at your own risk.

Blue badge holders can continue to use the primary car park.

Contractors are using both car parks. **The preferred option is still that parents use The Keys, Lens Plaice and Stans who have all offered parents parking**

Free School Meals

Vouchers will be sent to eligible parents for secondary students for next week. If your child is in school, they **MUST** bring their own food and drink.

Please do not send any food that has nut contents and no fizzy drinks, no caffeinated or energy drinks as these are not conducive to learning. Please avoid sugary snacks as this impacts behaviour.

Reception

Our Reception and Admin team are now in a temporary home in the old 'caretaker's bungalow' adjacent to the main car park. At this time, we cannot welcome drop in visitors but please do email or phone if you have a query. For students that arrive late or pupils who need to be collected early for an appointment, please contact school so that we can explain the signing in/out procedures.

Next steps

Please continue to email school with any queries or issues. Emails will be responded to Monday to Friday during normal school hours.

Half term is two weeks; Monday 20th October to Friday 31st October – Monday 3rd November is a PD day.



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Current status – for information

Secondary phase will be closed to some students 13th - 17th October.

Face-to-face provision for Year 11 students at NSC continues on Monday and Wednesday

Quinta students will move to school

Follow up questions

If you have any follow up questions, please email reception@stm.318education.co.uk. We will include responses in this daily email, unless your question is of a very specific or personal nature.

Thank you once again for your continued support this week.

Kind regards,

Mrs Pope Headteacher