



12 July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

## **Arrangements for the end of term and for the new school year**

As the year draws to a close, I am writing to remind you of the arrangements in place for the end of this year and to outline those in place for the new school year.

### **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> July**

Students will finish school at 1:15 pm. Following requests from students to raise money to support Covid relief in the developing world, this will be a non-uniform day. Students and staff are asked to make a donation of at least a pound in cash on the day. Collection buckets will be available at the gates on arrival.

### **Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> and Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September**

These are training and development days for staff. No students should attend school.

### **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September**

In order to help new year groups settle into school, only Year 7 and Year 12 students should attend school. Both year groups have been sent the details they need concerning this.

### **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September**

All students to return to school. This will be timetable **week 1**. Please note that the timings of the school day have been altered (see attached); students should arrive in school **by 8:40am** at the latest to allow them to be ready to start lessons at **8:45am**. Normally, there is no morning tutor period. However, for the first day only, students should go to their tutor room for an extended tutor time where they will receive their timetable and planner.

We will be returning to the vertical tutor system in place before Covid restrictions began. Students will be able to find their tutor group and room by referring to their timetable which will be provided to students before the end of this term. For those students who are currently isolating at home, their timetable will be sent home via their school email.

Next year students will be asked to enter school via their allocated house gate. We want to start as we mean to go on the first day back and therefore ask that all students should arrive in school via the correct gate for their house:

- Attenborough & Owens – G block gates
- Rowling & Hawking – Dining Centre gates
- Frank & Parks – Astroturf gates

In the new academic year, we will return to having a morning breaktime as well as a lunch break. The timings for these will depend on year group. Please refer to the timings of the school day document. If your child normally purchases food from school, please make sure there are sufficient funds in their account. During Break A or Lunch A, Year 7 will use the downstairs dining room; Year 8 and 9 will use upstairs. During Break B or Lunch B, Year 11 will be downstairs and Year 10 upstairs. Sixth form students will be free to use which ever dining room they prefer throughout their day; they will also, no doubt, enjoy the use of our new sixth form café which will be completed over the summer holiday.

From the first day of term, if students have P.E. on their timetable, they should bring their P.E. kit; students with P.E. during the day will no longer be permitted to wear their kit throughout the day and will be expected to change in school for these lessons.

Please may we remind you of the importance of ensuring that students have the correct uniform, equipment and P.E. kit for the new school year. Details of requirements can be found [here](#) on our website.

To assist you with being ready for the start of term, we will be sending out a 'September Ready' video towards the end of August to help your child familiarise themselves with expectations and arrangements for the start of the school year.

### **Covid precautions**

Although many Covid restrictions will be lifted over the summer, please be assured that we will continue to take great care in school. The key things are ventilation and hygiene. Windows and doors will remain open and hand sanitiser will continue to be available. Staff and students may wear face masks should they wish to do so. We are awaiting confirmation of requirements in relation to testing at the beginning of the new school year and will let you know about these as soon as possible. Please look out for our welcome back to school video which we will distribute later in the summer holiday.

This has been a remarkable year in many ways. It has been remarkable in terms of the disruption and difficulties presented by the pandemic; however, what is far more remarkable is the resilience, determination and good-humour of all members of our school community: parents, carers, students and staff. I wish you all a safe, relaxing summer holiday!

Yours sincerely



Steve Jefferies  
Headteacher

**Empowering lives through learning**