

Friday 4 September

Dear Parents and Carers,

Start of Term Arrangements – Lower School

I hope you and your families are well and have managed to have a break over the summer, and I also hope that students are excited to return to school next week.

The Headmaster wrote to you on 21 August outlining the plans for the reopening of the whole College and I do hope you have taken the time to read through both the student and parent brochures and think through what the plans will mean and look like for students as we return.

On Monday 7 September, Lower School students will arrive at the College at staggered start times and through specific entrances.

Year Group	Arrival Time	Entry Point
7	0800-0810	Main College Doors
8	0810-0820	Refectory Bridge Door
9	0800-0810	West Door

Students will not use lockers but go directly to their form rooms, having already taken coats off as they arrived and stowed these carefully in their bags, which students must keep with them through the day. There will be an opportunity this week for all students to empty their locker from the last academic year should they not have done so already.

All students will begin the new term with an extended tutor time, getting up to speed with the new routines and changes to the day, before timetabled lessons begin for all, after break, in period 3. All students that have PE or Games on their timetable after P3 on a Monday will need to wear their Games kit to the College as changing room facilities will not be available.

The allocation of form rooms:

7F	121
7G	122
7H	124
7I	123
7J	302
8F	012
8G	013
8H	014
8I	223
9F	305
9G	301
9H	304
9I	317

Please note that face coverings are required in communal areas, which includes corridors, stairs, and the entrance gate. A reminder also that we ask for students to bring their own hand sanitizer to use regularly throughout the day and remain socially distanced as they move around the site.

There will inevitably be some challenges and elements of school life which are only properly understood once we return, but I have complete confidence that the Lower School will seek to make the most of the opportunities that being in school provides. Independence and organisation are going to be some of the key skills required in order to navigate the new structures and routines, and our Lower School tutors will support students in settling into this 'new normal'. I will write to all of you again within the fortnight and share with you how the school's plans have turned into reality during the first week, and give advice on how everyone can prepare for the term ahead, highlighting the key upcoming events.

Thank you to the parents who have already been in touch where siblings begin at staggered start times: we are able to provide supervision in the LRC once permission has been sought and numbers checked. Please do contact your Head of Year or Form Tutor this weekend if this needs to be actioned and we will seek to support you.

You will also be aware that we had to unfortunately cancel our usual annual Bushcraft trip for all Year 7 students due to the current circumstances. I am however pleased to inform you that we have managed to replace this with two day trips for all of Year 7 on Thursday 24 September and Friday 25 September to give the students that invaluable opportunity to bond and get to know one another. Mr Telford, our Head of Adventurous Activities, will be in touch shortly with more details about the timings and costs of these trips.

Finally, if you recognise improvements which can reasonably be suggested over the coming weeks, please do communicate these to your child's Form Tutor and these can be considered at the start of term. We are excited to be back creating a forward-thinking community which inspires and supports individuals to thrive.

Yours sincerely,



Miss A Karmock-Golds
Head of Lower School

