

Friday 16th July 2021



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Dear Parents/ Carers,

Start of term arrangements

I hope you are well; I'm sure you'll be looking towards the summer holidays and hopefully a break at some point but I'd like to bring your attention to some important information we need to share regarding the start of the Autumn 2021 Term. **We have adapted our plans in light of the Government's latest guidance to schools which coincides with the Step 4 Roadmap.**

COVID Testing and controls

Schools have been asked to test all students twice, on-site at the start of term. This means that there will be a staggered start to the term for all year groups. Students will return to school for their first day on their second test day. Please see below the plan for each year group. In order to get students back to school as quickly as possible, we will begin the testing process on Friday 3rd September for Years 7 and 12. Can you please ensure availability on the relevant days for your child's first test. Once we have a clear indication of the numbers of students we will be testing each day, an invitation with a time slot will be sent to individual groups.

I strongly encourage all parents to consent their children being tested as this way, we can mitigate the risk of the virus and hopefully have an uninterrupted start to school year.

It is important that you give your consent using this [form](#). Please can you complete the form and return it by Monday 19th July 9.00am. As this will be a new academic year, I ask that all parents re-submit the consent form even if consent has been previously given.

Year 7 parents: We appreciate this may be a slightly daunting experience for our transitioning students. There will be staff on hand from the SEN team and others to support and help the process. The students will administer the test themselves with help from staff and volunteers. Registration for the tests will be done in school.

Fri 03/09	Mon 06/09	Tues 07/09	Wed 08/09	Thurs 09/09	Fri 10/09	Mon 13/09
Test 1 Years 7+12	Test 1 Y8+10	Test 1 Years 11+9	Test 1 Year 13			
Staff Training day			Start of term for Y7,12 (Induction) Test 2	Start of term for Y8,10 Test 2	Start of term for Y9,11 Test 2	Start of term for Y13 Test 2

There will be some online activities for students to engage with at home prior to their return.

If any further Government guidance is released during the holidays I will inform parents and make relevant alterations to current plans.

There will not be a requirement to wear face coverings in social spaces and classrooms but students may choose to do so. In addition, the 'bubble' system will no longer be enforced, though we will continue to adopt the split break and lunch times as this has been popular with students and allows a good amount of space for all to enjoy.

Continued measures will be:

- Ensuring good hygiene (hand and respiratory)
- Maintaining enhanced cleaning across the building
- Keeping spaces well ventilated
- Following public health guidance on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases

Pastoral Arrangements

Students will remain in horizontal year groups next year. They will have a Head of Year who will also act as a Head of House for the reward and competition system. Where there are changes of form, your child/ren will be informed before the end of this term.

Heads of Year:

Year 7: Ms Boyle (Hoy House)

Year 8: Mr Daly (Adlington House)

Year 9: Mr Bonfield (Ainslie House)

Year 10: Ms Hardwick (Redgrave House)

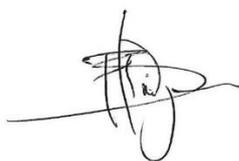
Year 11: Mr Few (Assistant Head teacher, Safeguarding and Attendance)

Sixth Form: Ms G Loveridge (Assistant Head teacher, Sixth form and Careers Education)

As mentioned previously, further details with timings for first tests will be sent separately.

Thank you for your support with this process; it really is much appreciated. Hopefully we will be able to look forward to an uninterrupted year of learning in 2021/22.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'H Bridge', written over a horizontal line.

Ms H Bridge
Headteacher