



Friday, 14 July 2023

Dear Families,

### End of Term Year 8– July 2023

We hope you are well and looking forward to enjoying at least some of the summer break together as a family. It has been a full and productive year. We are proud of our students and staff and congratulate them on their hard work and focus.

Well done to those students involved in the school production 'Matilda', those who took part in the Culture Day fashion show, and to all those students who performed at the end of term farewell events, to say goodbye to all our colleagues leaving Sydenham School at the end of term to take up other opportunities.

This letter outlines the following important information about:

1. **Dates and Timings - Autumn Term 2023**
2. **Changes to the Year 8 Team**
3. **Safeguarding over the summer holidays**
4. **Uniform and Mobile Phones**
5. **Changes to the Senior Leadership Team**
6. **Parents'/Carers' Evenings 2023-24.**

#### 1. Dates and Timings – Autumn Term 2023

We very much look forward to welcoming students back to school for the autumn term during the week commencing Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September. We will have a staggered start to the school year in order to ensure that all students make a really positive start.

Details of when Year 8 students are back onsite on can be found here: [Start of Term](#)

#### 2. Changes to the Year 8 Team

Sadly, we are saying goodbye to Ms Dunham as she takes an opportunity at another school in South London. We are excited to welcome Ms Frimpong as the Head of Year 9. Ms Frimpong is a Science teacher and can be contacted on [n.owusufrimpong@sydenham.lewisham.sch.uk](mailto:n.owusufrimpong@sydenham.lewisham.sch.uk)

#### 3. Safeguarding over the summer holidays

If your family requires welfare or wellbeing support over the summer holidays, please refer to our safeguarding guide for a directory of services which can be found here:

<https://resources.finalsite.net/images/v1594294245/sydenhamlewishamschuk/mcbsf630z2ag8hrnsocK/SummerSupportGuide.pdf>



If you have a safeguarding concern about your child or any child who attends Sydenham School, please contact the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) for the borough in which the child resides. Lewisham MASH can be contacted on 0208 314 6660 or [MASHagency@lewisham.gov.uk](mailto:MASHagency@lewisham.gov.uk).

If you have an urgent safeguarding concern, please contact the relevant emergency service. If you have an urgent medical problem and you are not sure what to do, go to [111.nhs.uk](http://111.nhs.uk) or call 111. If you want to contact the police, ambulance or fire brigade, dial 999 in an emergency or 101 to report a concern or a crime.

#### 4. Uniform and Mobile Phones

<b>Blazers</b>	These will need to be worn at all times unless permission has been given by the class teacher in the classroom to take it off.
<b>Shirts</b>	White revere collar shirts
<b>School bag</b>	Sydenham School bag only.
<b>Socks</b>	Black socks or tights only.
<b>Jewellery</b>	One pair of studs (not hoops). No bracelets, necklaces (unless religious) or rings.
<b>Hair</b>	Students' hair should be their own natural colour (no hair dye or different coloured additions)
<b>Nails</b>	No acrylics or coloured nail polish.
<b>Mobile Phones</b>	Switched off and kept in the student's bag while they are on the school site. If the mobile phone is seen on site, it will be confiscated and will need to be collected by the parent/carer the next day.

#### 5. Changes to the Senior Leadership Team

We say goodbye to a number of colleagues at the end of this term and thank all of our colleagues for their sterling work throughout the year. We wish each of them every deserved success.

The Senior Leadership Team (SLT) will be reconfigured for September. The structure of these changes is outlined below.

Ms Pooley and Ms Emmanuel are both leaving at the end of this term. They are long standing members of staff (Ms Pooley 31 years and Ms Emmanuel 18 years) and both will be very much missed. We thank both colleagues for their excellent work at Sydenham School. Families are aware that I will be leaving at



the end of this academic year and that Ms Wijnberg has been appointed as the new Headteacher from September 2023.

The new SLT structure will be as follows:

Ms Emma Wijnberg – Headteacher

Ms Hannah Coleridge - Deputy Headteacher

Ms Anna Siddell – Deputy Headteacher

Mr Mark Freakes – Assistant Headteacher

Ms Eleanor George – Assistant Headteacher

Ms Sarah Millar – Assistant Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead

Ms Sian Morrison – Assistant Headteacher

Ms Allie Smart – Assistant Headteacher.

## 6. Parents'/Carers' Evenings 2023-24

Following the Parents'/Carers' Evenings 2023-24 Survey, all Parents'/Carers' Evenings will continue to take place remotely via Teams during the Academic Year 2023-24.

There will also be an opportunity for families to meet their child's tutor face to face in September on **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September**.

Some families will also be invited in for an additional meeting if their child requires additional support with their learning and these events will be referred to as 'Invited Parents'/Carers' Evenings – dates to be confirmed.

I hope that you have a lovely and enjoyable summer break together. Please do take the very best of care.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Lowe  
Headteacher