

26th August 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

We sincerely hope you and your families are enjoying a restful and relaxing summer break. We are looking forward to seeing all our students return for the start of the new academic year next week.

We all share the same hope that there is minimal disruption to the education of our young people in the coming year. However, we do remain mindful of the potential for further local and/or national outbreaks and to this end we will maintain our contingency plans should this be the case. Many of the measures that were implemented last year to minimise the risk of infection will remain as they have helped in other ways, which include:

- the safe and efficient movement of students around the school site via one-way systems
- regular hand sanitizing in lessons
- high levels of ventilation in classrooms whenever possible.

However, we will be taking every opportunity to reintroduce the aspects of school life that support student progress and development that were not possible last year. The government guidance is clear that any reintroduction of measures are to be a last resort and temporary. As ever, we will communicate with you on regular basis in this regard.

*We ask for your support in reminding your children of the need for good hand and respiratory hygiene. It is also **highly recommended that each student takes a lateral flow test the day before their return to school.***

To help you and your child prepare for the start of school we take this opportunity to remind you of the following:

1. Return to School

- a. Thursday 2nd September - Year 7 only will return to school (and some Y11 prefects will be in to support).
- b. Friday 3rd September - All year groups in. Normal school day timings.
- c. Uniform – **We expect all students to be in full uniform from the first day. PE kits will not be needed on this Thursday/Friday.**
- d. Food and drink will be available at break and lunchtimes from the first day for those not bringing packed lunches. **Please make sure ParentPay accounts have been topped up.**
- e. On arrival on the first day students will be guided to the correct entrance for their year group.

2. Testing

It is a government requirement that all secondary students receive two lateral flow tests 3-5 days apart at the start of term. Testing will not cause a delay to the planned start of term.

We regularly update our COVID-19 Information page on the website [click here](#)

- a. Year 7 have already received information about lateral flow testing. To recap, Year 7s will be tested on the Thursday and then again on the following Monday. **If you have not already completed the consent and registration forms please do so ASAP.** These can be found at the link above.
 - b. Years 8-11 will receive their first test on the Friday and then again on the Tuesday. Letters have already been sent home and can be found on the website.
 - c. It is highly recommended that all students continue with twice weekly lateral flow testing and the school will continue to provide home test kits.
3. Terms 1 and 2 PE changing rooms

We are delighted that our Sports Halls and PE changing rooms are undergoing significant refurbishment. This work will be ongoing until the Christmas holidays. To that end, students must wear their school PE kit/dance kit to school on the days that they have these subjects. Full school uniform must be worn on days they do not have PE/Dance. Full details about uniform/PE/Dance kit can be found <https://www.wyvernsted.org/46/uniform>

Your child must expect to be challenged if they are not wearing the correct uniform or PE/Dance kit.

4. Travelling to and from school

- a. Using public or school buses. It is still a requirement that students wear a mask.
- b. Bicycles. Please make sure that your child wears a helmet and high visibility clothing. Bicycles are not to be ridden on the school site.
- c. Electric scooters are not to be ridden to and from school.

5. Equipment

- a. Please do ensure that your child brings a school bag and pencil case every day. We expect every student to have black pens, pencil, ruler and rubber. Some subjects will require specialist equipment such as calculators and maths sets. Their class teachers will remind them.
- b. Exercise books. These will continue to remain in school. However, books will be allowed home prior to any assessments for revision.
- c. Water bottles. We encourage your child to bring a reusable water bottle to school. We have numerous water fountains across the site to allow for refilling.

Yours sincerely,



Mr B E Burley
Head of School