

14th July 2021

Dear Parents / Carers

Arrangements for the End of Term / Start of the Academic Year

I am writing to confirm the arrangements for the end of this term and for our return in September.

Last Day of Term

The last day of term will be Tuesday 20th July and students will be dismissed from school at 1pm. On this day, food will only be available for purchase during morning break.

Start of the Academic Year

Outlined below are the key dates and other pieces of information that I feel are important to share. I hope that this makes you feel secure in the knowledge that we are taking all necessary actions to support a safe return to school following the summer break. A full risk assessment to support this has already been undertaken and will be updated on our website, together with our plan for return.

Key Dates – September 2021

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| Wednesday 1 st September | INSET Day – No students in school |
| Thursday 2 nd September | Years 8 and 9 - Students to attend school for Lateral Flow Testing only. (See timings overleaf.) |
| Friday 3 rd September | Year 7 - 1 st day of school. Transition Day and Lateral Flow Testing. |
| Monday 6 th September | Year 7 - Students to attend school as normal. Years 8 and 9 - Students to attend school for Lateral Flow Testing only. (See timings overleaf.) |
| Tuesday 7 th September | Years 7, 8 and 9 – All students to attend school. Year 7 Lateral Flow Testing. |

Lateral Flow Testing

Students with parental consent will receive two lateral flow tests. Please note that these tests are for those students who are not displaying any symptoms of COVID-19. If they are showing signs of symptoms, you should follow government guidance and book a test via <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>. In addition to this, please do not consent for your child to be tested if they have had a positive test in the last 90 days, as it may give an incorrect positive result. (Please follow this link to access the [consent form](#).)

Test slots for each form group have been scheduled in order to reduce waiting times and large group gatherings. **Students should only attend school for their test at the allotted time, and it is important that these times are adhered to as we will pre-register students on the NHS website.** Lateral flow test results take 30 minutes and will be sent to the email address provided on the consent form.

| Year 8: Thursday 2 nd & Monday 6 th September | | Year 9: Thursday 2 nd & Monday 6 th September | |
|--|------|---|--------|
| 8HP | 9am | 9HP | 12pm |
| 8HA | 9am | 9HA | 12pm |
| 8CX | 10am | 9CX | 1.30pm |
| 8CM | 10am | 9CM | 1.30pm |
| 8JA | 11am | 9JA | 2.30pm |
| 8JN | 11am | 9JN | 2.30pm |
| Students will be informed of their new Tutor Group before the end of this term. | | | |

Year 7 tests will take place during the school day on Friday 3rd September and Tuesday 7th September.

Face masks/coverings

All students should ensure that they have a face covering and also a plastic bag in which to place the covering when not in use. Students will be able to wear their own PPE if they wish to do so. Students will be required to wear face coverings whilst inside the building in communal areas. This will be reviewed regularly, in line with government guidance at the time.

Any visitors to the school site will be required to wear a face covering.

Cleaning

Our enhanced cleaning protocols will remain in place. Cleaning materials will be available in each room, with tissues and safe bins for disposal. There may be occasions when we need students to wipe a table and chair that they have sat in or equipment that they have used. This would be to ensure that lessons can be commenced swiftly and will be kept to a minimum, if at all.

Transport

Where possible, students should walk or cycle to school, but where this is not possible, to be brought by car would be the next preferred option. Dropping students off to walk the final stages would greatly assist, minimising congestion and therefore contact. There will be no parental access to the car park at the start or end of the day, unless prior arrangement has been made. We ask that parents/carers do not congregate at the school gates.

Public Transport

Any student travelling by public transport must follow the guidance the transport company has in place.

School Opening Time

Gates will open at 8.15am and students will enter gradually, allowing time for handwashing and entry to assigned rooms. Staff will supervise this process.

Medical Updates

Should your child's medical condition have changed recently, please ensure that you provide the school with details ahead of their return to school.

PE Lessons

Changing rooms will be open from September and therefore all students need to arrive in full school uniform every day.

From September, we are introducing Paxman Academy navy joggers as part of the PE kit which can be purchased from Anglia Sports and Schoolwear. No other jogging bottoms, leggings or sports leggings will be allowed and fashion trainers are not permitted. All students are expected to change in to PE kit for PE lessons, whether they are able to participate or not.

Lockers

Students will not be able to store items in lockers and will therefore be expected to keep bags, coats and other personal items with them at all times. We will inform you when the use of lockers can be safely resumed.

Behaviour

Our behaviour expectations remain exceptionally high and are more important than ever to keep our entire community safe and able to focus fully on their learning.

We have an addendum to our Behaviour for Learning Policy which can be found on the policies section of our website. These expectations are not negotiable and students failing to meet the requirements will receive sanctions with immediate effect. Please read this addendum so that you are aware of, and can fully support, the expectations we have put in place to ensure all students feel they can learn safely and free from disruption. We will not hesitate to take tough action should any student whose actions seek to create fear amongst others or put others at risk by deliberately not following guidelines and expectations (for example coughing near people, obstructing corridors etc.).

I hope that the above provides reassurance that the measures we have in place allow everyone to feel positive and secure. Thank you for your support in helping us to prevent the spread of COVID-19 during these difficult times.

I wish you and your family a restful and enjoyable summer break and look forward to welcoming students, especially our new Year 7 cohort, to the school in September.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'CA Moffat', written in a cursive style.

Mrs CA Moffat
Headteacher