



6 September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope that you have had a relaxing and peaceful summer holiday. We are all looking forward to welcoming our students back to school and are hopeful that the school year will run smoothly, without the significant disruption we have experienced during the last two academic years.

Return to School

Following the message sent out last week, please remember that students should attend school at the following times

Year 7 8.40am on Wednesday 8 September

Year 8 10.30am on Wednesday 8 September

All students, in all year groups, should then attend school as normal for 8.45am on Thursday 9 September.

COVID-19

Please remember that your child should continue to take Lateral Flow Tests on a twice-weekly basis. Students should not attend school if:

- they are displaying any symptoms of Coronavirus (please book a PCR test)
- have tested positive on a lateral flow or PCR test
- have been instructed or are required to self-isolate

Over the summer holiday, the guidance for contacts of people who have tested positive for COVID-19 changed. This means that since 16 August those below the age of 18 years and 6 months are no longer required to self-isolate if they are identified as a close contact (including household members). NHS Test and Trace will advise that a PCR test should be taken. Students who are identified as a contact should therefore continue to attend school as normal, unless they receive a positive test result themselves or develop symptoms of COVID-19.

The Department for Education (DfE) guidance for schools changed considerably at the end of term and we will no longer be operating staggered arrival and departure times or grouping students in bubbles in separate areas of the school building. **We do however want to minimise the risk of large numbers of students testing positive for COVID-19 as we return to school. We will therefore be continuing with the requirement for students and members of staff to wear facemasks in communal areas of school (unless they are exempt from wearing them) until the end of September, in the first instance.** This is in line with Government guidance that states people are expected and recommended, to wear facemasks in crowded and enclosed spaces. This will also allow us to make an informed decision about whether to continue with this requirement once we have seen the impact of students being back in schools across York.

HEADTEACHER: Mr David Hewitt, BA (Hons), NPQH

DEPUTY HEAD: Mr A Haigh, BSc (Hons)

DEPUTY HEAD: Ms C Mann, BA (Hons)

“Working together to achieve success”

Access to school grounds at the end of the school day

Now that all students are once again leaving school at the same time each day, please do not enter the school grounds in a car between 3.00pm and 3.30pm, nor arrive earlier and park in the school grounds. This allows us to ensure that buses and taxis can enter and exit the carpark easily and students can leave the school site safely. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

I will write to you at the end of the week to provide you with some further information and share key dates for this half term with you.

Yours sincerely

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

Dave Hewitt
Headteacher