



Term 1 Newsletter 2020/21

Dear Parent/Carer

We have had a really good week in school and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support. In particular, it has helped us enormously that students have come to school within their arrival windows. This has allowed us to ensure that all 1337 students have washed their hands as they come into the building – not a small undertaking!

Students have also cleaned their hands at break and lunchtime but it would be helpful if they bring some hand sanitiser to school to use at other times during the school day. Hand sanitiser stations are also available in all cluster areas.

Welcome to Year 7 and Year 12

Our new Year 7 have got off to a great start this week, Mrs Vallis and Mrs Clarke have been really impressed by how well students have settled into school. They have quickly got used to our systems and have really benefitted from having their own separate area for break and lunchtime as they get used to life in a secondary school. They are working well in lessons and are really keen to do their best.

It has been lovely to see so many of our Year 11 students return in Year 12 and Mr Coleman has made sure they have quickly become part of our sixth form. I would also like to say welcome to those students who have joined us from other schools. There are some fantastic student leadership opportunities in the sixth form and we are looking forward to the new Year 12 helping us develop important parts of our school.

Food at break and lunchtimes

We are continuing to serve hot food and sandwiches at break and lunchtimes. Access to the paying in machines in school is restricted at the moment as we are keeping students in their separate bubbles. Please use Parent Pay to add money to your child's account rather than sending them into school with cash. Free School Meals will continue to be credited to accounts as normal.

Uniform

We were really pleased with the standard of uniform this week. A small number of students have been given over the weekend to rectify uniform issues and we would appreciate the support of parents/carers with this before Monday.

Entry to the school grounds

I appreciate that a number of parents and carers may be collecting children in cars at the end of the day rather than using public transport. If you are able to arrange a collection point outside of the school grounds it would be helpful as this will allow us to bring buses into the school grounds safely.

WEDUC

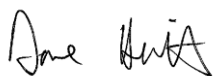
Thank you to those parents and carers who have downloaded the WEDUC App. This will increasingly become our main form of communication as it allows us to share messages and updates quickly and effectively. We will roll out more functionality in the App over the coming weeks to allow you to keep track of your child's attendance and achievements in school. If you require any assistance with the App please contact the school.

School Events

We have a number of events planned for this half term. At this stage we anticipate all of these events being on-line rather than face to face. Further details will follow about individual events. I have attached a list of key dates for your information.

Thank you again for your support. We have made some minor changes to our systems since the start of term and we do know that we may need to make some more as staff and students feedback on our new way of working. Please contact the pastoral team, for the year your child is in, if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely



Dave Hewitt
Headteacher

Key Dates – Term 1 2020/21

Thursday 17 th September	Year 12 Parent /Carer Information Evening
Tuesday 22 nd September	Y7 Parent / Carer Information Evening
Thursday 24 th September	Y11 Parent / Carer Information Evening
Tuesday 6 th October	Y6 Open Evening
Wednesday 14 th October	Full Governing Body Meeting
Thursday 15 th October	Y10 Parent / Carer Information Evening and Targets
Thursday 22 nd October	Y13 Parent / Carer Evening
Friday 23 rd October	Start of half term holiday – school finishes at normal time