



PARKLANDS BULLETIN

1 - 3 September 2021 : Week 1



Headteacher's message

Dear parents and carers and students,

We have finally made it to the end of the academic year! This is a year in education which I doubt anyone will ever forget; the challenges it has brought have been immense, and I am sure I can speak for all staff at Parklands that we are looking forward immensely to getting back to normal. It will undoubtedly be strange to our current year 7s and year 8s, who have had either no experience or very limited experience to our normal ways of working - and in addition, we'll have a new intake of year 7s in September who again will have had virtually no transition whatsoever. However, as we will have moved back to Vertical Tutoring, I am confident that our older students in years 10 and 11 will provide help and guidance to the younger ones during the daily form time.

September reopening details are on page 2 of this bulletin and can also be found [here](#) on our website. Please note that we have staggered starts for the various year groups in order to conduct the lateral flow testing, as required by the Department for Education.

We have also been notified this week that all Parklands students will be offered a flu vaccination. Please see details below from the DfE. We will liaise with parents and carers upon our return regarding consent forms and further details once we have them.

Flu vaccination 2021/22: programme briefing for schools

For the 2021/22 flu season, the flu vaccination programme that already includes all children in primary school will be expanded to children in secondary school. Students in years 7 to 11 will now be offered flu vaccination this autumn term. This significant expansion in the programme is part of the government's wider winter planning to reduce flu levels in the population, and therefore the potential impact on the NHS, when we are likely to see both flu and COVID-19 in circulation.

No decision has been made yet about whether this expanded programme will continue in future years.

As usual, a local school-age immunisation provider will contact your school to agree a date for the vaccination session and the best approach for implementing the programme. A briefing on the flu vaccination programme can be found on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk).

I hope you all have a wonderfully relaxing summer break, and I would like to thank you for your support throughout this academic year..

Best wishes,
Mr Mitchell

September Re-opening

September: staggered start times & testing information for those who have provided consent

In order to comply with the government's requirement that we test pupils at the start of the new school year, we can stagger the start times in order to limit the number of close contacts who may be identified. Please see the information below for your child's starting date & time in addition to the testing information.

- ❖ Tuesday, 31st August: the testing for pupils will take place in the sports hall. Staff will be around to direct pupils. Uniform is not required. Parents/carers may wish to wait for their child, as the testing process will not take long. We will inform parents/carers of any positive results via Edulink or email.
 - Year 7 at 8.30am
 - Year 8 at 9.30am
 - Year 9 at 10.30am
 - Year 10 at 11.30am
 - Year 11 at 12.30pm
- ❖ Wednesday, 1st September: INSET day, so school is closed to all pupils.
- ❖ Thursday, 2nd September: Year 7 & Year 11 only in school from 8.40am.
- ❖ Friday, 3rd September:
 - Year 7 in school from 8.40am. Pupils who are testing should go to the sports hall. Pupils who are not testing should go to their form room.
 - Year 11 in school from 10am. Students who are testing should go to the sports hall. Students who are not testing should go straight to their period 2 lesson.
 - Year 8 come to school for 11.20am, go to the sports hall for testing then go home. Uniform is not required.
 - Year 9 come to school for 12.20pm, go to the sports hall for testing then go home. Uniform is not required.
 - Year 10 come to school for 2pm, go to the sports hall for testing then go home. Uniform is not required.
- ❖ Monday, 6th September: All pupils in school from 8.40am.



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Please note that the messages below are for the year groups as they will be in September.

If your child is currently in Year 7, please look at the Year 8 messages, and so on.

Year 7 Messages

Onsite lateral flow testing details are on page 2.
Year 7 return to school on Wednesday, 1st September

Year 8 Messages

Onsite lateral flow testing details are on page 2.
Year 8 return to school on Monday, 6th September

Year 9 Messages

Onsite lateral flow testing details are on page 2.
Year 9 return to school on Monday, 6th September

Year 10 Messages

Onsite lateral flow testing details are on page 2.
Year 9 return to school on Monday, 6th September

Progress reports were sent home on Tuesday 20th July and are now also available through our app, Edulink. Review Day also took place on the same day. Well done to those who have had a really successful year, despite the disruptions.

Year 11 Messages

Onsite lateral flow testing details are on page 2.
Year 11 return to school on Wednesday, 1st September

BfL reports are now available through our app, Edulink. We have not produced paper copies due to the high number of absent pupils.

If you have any problems accessing the reports please let us know.

Please note a full report including Working at Grades (WAGs) will be issued on the first day back in September when we will hold a Review Day as your child starts Year 11.

We know what a challenging and unpredictable year it has been so it is pleasing to see how well most of our students have ended the year. They have demonstrated resilience and patience which will hold them in good stead as they move into their final year.

Step 4 of the government's roadmap:

1. Close contacts will be identified via NHS Test and Trace and schools will no longer be expected to undertake contact tracing. As with positive cases in any other setting, NHS Test and Trace will work with the positive case to identify close contacts. Contacts from a school will only be traced by NHS Test and Trace where the positive case specifically identifies the individual as being a close contact. This is likely to be a small number of individuals who would be most at risk of contracting COVID-19 due to the nature of the close contact. Schools may be contacted in exceptional cases to help with identifying close contacts, as currently happens in managing other infectious diseases.
2. Face coverings are no longer advised by the government for pupils, staff and visitors either in classrooms or in communal areas. We would encourage both staff and pupils to continue to wear face coverings if they wish.
3. The Prime Minister had stated that "We expect and recommend people wear a face covering in crowded and enclosed spaces where you come into contact with those you don't normally meet such as on public transport'. We have therefore updated our operational guidance for settings which now recommends that face coverings are worn on dedicated transport to school or college when prevalence is high. This will be kept under review."
4. We will continue to provide hand sanitiser and promote good hygiene in school.
5. We will continue to keep classrooms as well ventilated as possible.
6. Pupils, staff and other adults should follow public health advice on [when to self-isolate and what to do](#). They should not come into school if they have symptoms, have had a positive test result or other reasons requiring them to stay at home due to the risk of them passing on COVID-19 (for example, they are required to quarantine). If anyone in school develops COVID-19 symptoms, however mild, we will send them home and they should follow public health advice. The household (including any siblings) should follow the PHE [stay at home guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#).
7. Staff and pupils with a positive LFD test result should self-isolate in line with the stay at home guidance. They will also need to get a free PCR test to check if they have COVID19. Whilst awaiting the PCR result, the individual should continue to self-isolate. If the PCR test is taken within 2 days of the positive lateral flow test, and is negative, it overrides the self-test LFD test and the pupil can return to school, as long as the individual doesn't have COVID-19 symptoms.

Whole School Messages

Dear all - Wishing you all a happy, healthy and relaxing summer holiday! Please click [here](#) for a self-care booklet for use in the holidays, if needed. A huge "thank you" to all parents and carers who have donated unwanted and used uniform. It really is appreciated. Mrs Fairhurst

Weekly Learning Support Board, please click [here](#)

The risks of swimming in outside water

Drowning sudden depth changes
hypothermia seizures
chemicals **cold water shock** pollutants
sudden temperature changes cramps
undercurrents **underwater debris**
slippy embankments

On the 3rd July 2011 Dylan Ramsay who was just 13 years old died whilst swimming at Hill Top Quarry, Chorley.

On what was a warm sunny day, Dylan jumped into the water and soon began to struggle and was unable to swim the short distance to safety. Dylan was an extremely fit and active young man and more importantly was an extremely capable and accomplished swimmer.

Dylan's devastated family have created the 'Doing it for Dylan' campaign to raise awareness in schools about the dangers of swimming in open water. Please visit our sites for more information, and join us in our cause.

 @missmybabyboy
 facebook.com/DoingItForDylan
 petitions.direct.gov.uk/petitions/53219



Whole School Messages

As detailed in last week's bulletin, students in school have been given a free book to take home and enjoy over

the summer break. Peter Aspinall, Mrs Aspinall's husband, has donated copies of his second published book 'Two Weeks To Live' to every family. With the summer break now upon us it's a great opportunity for children and parents to relax and read.

Mrs Aspinall said ' I hope you enjoy the book as much as I did, although I know I might be biased. We are giving the book for free but if you read and enjoy the book it would be great if you would write a review on Amazon. More importantly, we would really appreciate it if you would consider making a donation to Sally's Charity. Sally Cornes was an inspirational young lady and much loved Parklands pupil who, unfortunately, lost her battle to cancer earlier this year. A charity is in the process of being set up in Sally's memory to help support other families faced with this disease. Until the charity is set up donations can be made by making a payment via SCOPAY : Sally Cornes Charity. The maximum amount is set at £20 but any amount, no matter how small, would be greatly appreciated'.