

PARKLANDS BULLETIN 28 June - 2 July 2021:Week 2



Headteacher's message

Dear parents and carers and students,

I would like to start by fully acknowledging the difficulties many of you have faced this week. The huge increase in positive cases and the resultant spike in close contacts has led to a far from satisfactory position, with many students having to isolate yet again after only just returning to school from a period of isolation. I want to reassure you that we are doing everything we can to stop the spread of Covid-19 in our school and in the local community. We have strict social distancing and hygiene measures in place and we're reiterating the importance of wearing face coverings in school at all times.

In light of our current situation, I have written to Sir Lindsay Hoyle, MP for Chorley, regarding our school's position and the impact the new Delta variant is clearly having on our school community. I have requested he look into the guidance for schools with specific reference to the management of close contacts, as I know that many of our students are currently facing their fourth, fifth or even sixth period of self-isolation. In addition, I have had several conversations with the Local Authority, who share our frustrations. I have been advised that the Director for Public Health for Lancashire, Dr Sakthi Karunanithi, has also contacted the government regarding our county's COVID situation. Any changes to the approach in Lancashire must come from the government, and I eagerly await a response to the concerns raised on your behalf, and on behalf of my colleagues in school, the governors and myself.

It is clear that in the autumn term we had very few cases, but most recently we have been hit incredibly hard by the Delta variant, which is up to 60% more transmissible. With all this in mind, please could I reiterate the important message around testing and following the "hands, face, space" guidelines. In order to keep our school community as safe as possible, it is important that students continue to wear face coverings and test twice weekly using the lateral flow devices, with any positive results reported immediately to school via <u>attendance@parklandsacademy.co.uk</u>. All positive cases must self-isolate as per government guidelines, as must close contacts identified by school. It is only by following this guidance that we can hope to reduce the community transmission of the virus, which is still having a debilitating effect on many individuals in society.

In school we will continue to encourage everyone to wear face coverings where required in addition to good hand hygiene and social distancing measures. We continue to keep year groups in their own bubbles, and we are well supported by our cleaning company, Orian, whose cleaning staff are doing a fantastic job in keeping our school as well sanitised as possible.

Like all of you, I am hopeful that the national vaccination rollout is breaking the link between COVID cases and hospitalisations, so that we can return in September to our normal ways of working.

As ever, thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards, Mr Mitchell



PARKLANDS BULLETIN 28 June - 2 July 2021:Week 2



Year 7 Messages

Parents Evening feedback: please could we ask for very brief feedback about your experience. Please click <u>here</u> to access the questionnaire. Thank you.

Year 8 Messages

The X-band is closed to everyone next week due to the number of students self-isolating. Whilst far from ideal, this will enable teachers to provide better quality teaching & learning for all students. Due to the number of cases we've had, students may have different end dates to their periods of isolation, so please stick with the dates Mrs Fish has provided about when the isolation period ends.

HPV vaccinations are taking place on Tuesday. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs Dewhurst via email: <u>kdewhurst@parklandsacademy.co.uk</u>

Year 9 Messages

Duke of Edinburgh

Unfortunately due to the rise in cases we have had to take the decision to cancel this weekend's DofE Expedition - pupils and parents/carers should have received an email earlier this week. We are aiming to complete the expedition in September and will be in touch ASAP regarding new dates.

Year 10 Messages

Please read <u>this</u> brief BBC News article about next year's GCSE exams. No further information has been given to schools yet, so we shall update you when we know more.

Year 10 Messages

Huge well done to our Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh pupils who completed their bronze expedition. They had a warm weekend in Clitheroe walking along the River Ribble on day 1, camping over and cooking their evening meal on their stoves, then on the second day doing a route around Waddington.



Whole School Messages

Perfect 3s

Has your child continued to achieve the perfect 3 since September 2021. There are **146** pupils with the perfect 3 - Well done!

Year 7:18 pupilsYear 8:39 pupilsYear 9:32 pupilsYear 10:29 studentsYear 11:29 students

Who had the perfect 3 last week? Year 7: 133 pupils Year 8: 87 pupils Year 9: n/a pupils Year 10: 133 students Year 11: n/a

Please congratulate your child if they are one of the perfect 3s! All BfL scores can be found in the Edulink app.

Weekly Learning Support Board, please click here

Click <u>here</u> to read the latest communication from the Director for Public Health for Lancashire.

Click here to read the latest communication from the Education Secretary, Gavin Williamson.

Next week the weather is due to get very warm indeed, so I have decided to allow the following:

- 1. You can continue to wear full uniform no hoodies allowed though.
- 2. Or you can wear Parklands PE kit. Anyone who comes to school in non-PHS items will have the privilege of wearing PE kit removed and they will have to wear full uniform, even on PE days. On PE days they will have to use the changing rooms to change.

If you choose to wear PE kit, you will have to be mindful about washing it & ensuring it is dry - if it's not dry, then full uniform will be required. Mr Mitchell

July's INSET Day

Reminder that we have changed our INSET day to Thursday, 22nd July. Students' final day will be Wednesday, 21st July with a usual finish time of 3pm.

Hot weather next week

Next week the weather is due to get very warm indeed, so we have decided to allow the following:

- 1. You can continue to wear full uniform no hoodies allowed though.
- 2. Or you can wear Parklands PE kit and no blazer is required. Anyone who comes to school in non-PHS items will have the privilege of wearing PE kit removed and they will have to wear full uniform, even on PE days. On PE days they will have to use the changing rooms to change.

If you choose to wear PE kit, you will have to be mindful about washing it & ensuring it is dry - if it's not dry, then full uniform will be required.

Whole School Messages



PE KIT REMINDER



No jewellery and long hair tied back

You can only wear Parkland items.

- Parklands hoody or Parklands team hoody
 - Parklands leggings
 - Parklands tracksuit bottoms.
 - Parklands shorts
- Parklands long/short sleeved top
- Parklands royal blue socks or white socks

Items are available at our uniform suppliers.





I



Thank you

to the Duke of Edinburgh's Award participants

from

Parklands Academy

who spent

520 hours

volunteering between 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2021.

Despite the challenges of the pandemic, we are immensely proud of the dedication, effort and achievement of our participants.

The social value of these hours is

£2366

BUTH MARVEL CEO

May 2021



This week's Career News has lots of virtual work experience opportunities, apprenticeship vacancies, news and updates from colleges, conferences and careers fairs, career of the week and the latest Careermag for school leavers.

Make sure you don't miss out on any of the fantastic offers! <u>Click the link here to read this week's</u> issue!