



# ASTLEY COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

One of the Seaton Valley Federation of Schools

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**Executive Headteacher:** John Barnes

**Head of School:** Graham Scott

Our Ref : GS/End of year 2020/15.07.2020

15<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Well, we all made it to the end of a very unusual and challenging academic year!

During the final days of term, year 9 and 10 students would have been on “Activities Week” and year 12 on “Work Experience”, however, this year it wasn't to be. It feels very strange to be ending for the summer holidays like this, but hopefully 2020-2021 will be better for us all and we can return to some form of normality.

**Friday 17th July is the last day of the academic year. School will close for those who are in by 12:30pm. Please note staff will not be setting any work in Google Classroom for Friday 17th July.**

Mr Barnes wrote to all parents last week to share that we are now planning how school will operate when we return in September.

Please note the following dates:

**Monday 31st August is a Bank Holiday.**

**Tuesday 1st September is a Teacher Training Day.**

It is expected that all students will return to school in September.

We can share at this stage our provisional plans for the first week back, however we will be writing to you on **Tuesday 18th August**, as will the other schools in the Federation, with the finer details of what this will look like for everyone, so please be prepared.

**Wednesday 2nd September – Induction Day** (all students will spend some time in school on this day, more information to follow)

**Thursday 3rd September – Normal school day with staggered start times.**

**Friday 4th September – Normal school day.**

I would kindly ask parents and carers to ensure that they carefully read the information that we send out on Tuesday 18th August. It is important that all parents/carers and students have an understanding of how school will look and operate in September and our expectations for everyone, in order to keep everyone healthy and safe. If you do not receive the communication on Tuesday 18th August, please check email communications from school are going to the correct folder. If the message has not been received, please contact school so that we can resend it.

Some information that I will share with you now will help you to start to plan for and understand the basics of our return:

- Students will be in year group “bubbles”.
- We will be operating a normal timetable.
- Each year group will be assigned a zone of roughly a quarter of the school.
- Students will remain in their zone for all lessons apart from PE.
- Breaks/lunchtimes will take place in the zone and allocated outdoor space.
- Teachers will travel across the school, rather than being in their usual base.
- Students will be in full school uniform, apart from days when they have practical PE lessons. For these 3 days per fortnight, we ask students to come into school in their PE kit with a tracksuit or equivalent over the top. We will not be using changing facilities.
- Start and finish times will be as follows:
  - **Year 9**                      **8.40am – 2.55pm**
  - **Year 10**                     **8.50am – 3.05pm**
  - **Year 11**                     **8.45am – 3.00pm**
  - **Year 12 & 13**              **8.55am – 3.10pm**
- Separate finishing times will be arranged for Wednesday week 1 when students usually finish around 2.05pm. Year 9 Enrichment will not run for the first term.

Obviously, a lot more information will follow on Tuesday 18th August, but hopefully this gives you an idea of how things will operate.

Could I also remind parents/carers that all lower school students are expected to return in September smartly dressed in the correct school uniform, so please ensure that this is the case. In particular, could I reinforce that all students must wear formal black shoes as part of their uniform. Uniform is now ordered directly via Emblematic, our chosen supplier and details of the uniform can be found on our website.

Once again, I would like to thank the students, parents, carers, staff, governors and everyone associated with our school for their fantastic efforts throughout the year, especially since March. Through some difficult times, we have all pulled together and I am immensely proud of what we have collectively achieved. Well done and thank you to you all.

Finally, I hope you all have a relaxing summer holiday and wish you all the very best for the next few weeks. We are really looking forward to seeing everyone again in September.

Kind regards



Graham Scott  
Head of School