

**Letter from Headteacher to all parents and carers:
End of term; arrangements for September; key school
information**



Wednesday 15th July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

This letter provides full arrangements for our return to school in September, and also confirms a few other key pieces of information at the end of this academic year. I am sorry that there is so much information here. There is a lot of vital information for parents and students to understand so please have a good read through this.

When do I return to school?

Due to the nature of our return - under the current COVID situation - we will be staggering our return to school in September. This is happening across the education sector and is with the approval of Stockport MBC. This will allow us to ensure all staff are trained for the new arrangements and that all students can return productively and safely. Particular preference is being given to our new Year 7s who have had no opportunity at all to visit our school.

	Tuesday 1st September	Wednesday 2nd September	Thursday 3rd September	Friday 4th September	From Monday 7th September
Year 7	Staff Training Day	Orientation Day starting at 8.40	Period 1 with form, Periods 2 to 5 in lessons	All students return Period 1 with form, Periods 2 to 5 in lessons	Normal lessons
Year 8		Not in school	Not in school		
Year 9		Not in school	Not in school		
Year 10		Not in school	Not in school		
Year 11		Not in school	Period 1 with form, Periods 2 to 5 in lessons		

A reminder that all students should be in school by 8.40am at the very latest for every school day.

First week arrangements for return

Year 7

Year 7 students will be met at the school gate by our pastoral team on Wednesday 2nd September, and escorted to our all weather pitch (or dining room if it is raining). Students will then meet their form tutor and be taken to their form room to meet the other members of

their form. Year 7's first day in school will include an assembly in small groups, a tour of the school, some activities to get to know your form tutor and form members, an extended lunch to learn how this will operate and some time going through your timetable in detail.

Year 7 students will also be activating their finger print registration for catering throughout the morning and adding their money to their account. It would be useful to bring an initial cash amount of £3 to load onto their account. By lunch break, they will have all had their finger print done and added their money ready to purchase food. If you would prefer, you can bring a packed lunch. Free school meal students will be provided with a free school meal from the first day. We will be giving out parent pay letters on the first day so parents can top up the account after the first day at home.

Please note: We were hoping to invite Year 7 parents into school during this first week, but under the current COVID regulations, we will not be able to do this at this stage. When this becomes possible, we will arrange this.

Particular message to Year 7 students and their parents

We understand that you will be feeling particularly anxious this year. It isn't the move from primary to secondary that anyone would want and we know that. We apologise that we haven't been able to co-ordinate a real welcome for you this term because of the virus, and we know that we cannot possibly ever give you enough information to ease your concerns. We are really looking forward to meeting you in the first week, and we hope you will quickly settle into the routines of high school. You will quickly feel at home we are sure. You will have the whole school to yourself on Wednesday and only our Year 11s in with you on Thursday, so you will have time to get used to us. We can't wait to meet you.

Years 8 to 11

There are specific entrances and social areas for students to arrive and meet in. These are arranged by year group. Students will be directed to these areas by members of the pastoral team and SLT when they arrive.

On the first day in school after return, students should make their way to their designated area. They will be directed to their form room at 8.45am. Staff will be available to clarify where this is if students are unsure.

Message for current Year 8 who move into Year 9 in September

We are pleased to inform parents and students that all students have been allocated the choice of subject that they requested before lockdown. These choices will start in September and be on your new timetables.

Parents entry to the school grounds - new gates

- Please note that, from September, our school will be operating new electric gates at the main entrance. This is a new facility to safeguard your children and our school during the school day. These gates will be locked during school operating hours.
- This means that parents will not be able to wait within the school grounds for children at the end of the day, and will not be able to drop off students at the start of the day within the grounds. We would also request that parents keep the immediate area around

school free of cars at the beginning and end of school, and are considerate of our neighbours.

- During the current COVID situation, a polite reminder that parents are only allowed on school premises with a pre-arranged appointment. Parents who arrive with a pre-arranged appointment will need to use the intercom system at the gate to gain access.
- There are a small number of our students who have specific needs that mean they need to be dropped off by parents. These parents should contact their Year Inclusion Manager or our SENDCO Mrs Burke sara.burke@wernethschool.com to receive specific instructions.

School Bus Services from September 2020

We have been working closely with TfGM with regard to bus services. Please keep up to date with any revised arrangements they make, and we will post any on our website that may arise. Our understanding at the moment is that all bus services will run as normal from September 2020. Government advice on face coverings will remain the same. If it is possible, we have been asked to advise you to walk, cycle or make alternative arrangements if that is possible: we know it won't be possible for everyone.

Important information relating to TfGM's Yellow School Bus Scheme

From September, there will be no need to have a bus pass for the Yellow School Bus. The service will run at the same time and from the same stops.

If you have any questions about school buses, please email school.bus@wernethschool.com which we will monitor through the school holiday.

Uniform

All students will return in full school uniform from September.

Please see the attached summary of uniform regulations.

SUMMARY OF KEY CHANGES IN SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER

The school must operate with new rules and arrangements for September because of COVID-19. These will be reviewed and changed weekly if necessary, and we will inform you when these rules will be allowed to cease in line with government guidance to schools. The school leadership team has written a 12-page risk assessment document of these amendments which is shared with staff, governors and the local authority. I have summarised it below for parents, and students will receive a verbal presentation from form tutors and leaders when they return in September. This documentation may change at any stage, and we will update you of changes as they occur.

SUMMARY OF KEY CHANGES IN SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER

STUDENTS ARE GROUPED IN YEAR GROUP BUBBLES AND ARE EXPECTED TO FOLLOW OUR PROCEDURES IN PLACE TO MAINTAIN THIS AT ALL TIMES

Hygiene

- "Catch it, kill it, bin it." Extra sanitisers have been installed around school.
- Students must take responsibility for cleaning hands regularly.
- Toilets can be used across all year groups, and will be cleaned hourly.

- We have an additional cleaning team in place throughout the school day, and after school.
- Every classroom will have sanitizers, tissues and bins to be used on entry and exit from every classroom by students. Students will take responsibility - working with their teachers - to clean their own working area at the end of a lesson as part of good hygiene routines and to protect everyone.
- The government guidance says that masks should not be worn in school.
- Any student who becomes unwell will be assessed and accommodated in an isolation room until parents/carers can collect. A separate toilet will be used, and the room cleaned after every use.
- Full procedures are in place to isolate a student or a group of students if necessary, and we will work with a dedicated team at Public Health England if this becomes necessary. In this case, home learning will be provided.
- In both of the previous bullet points, school will work directly with parents to give clear guidance.

Travelling to school

- There is no requirement to socially distance on school buses
- School will work with bus companies to try to seat students in year group areas
- Bus companies will have greater cleaning procedures in place
- If possible, parents should encourage students to walk or cycle
- A reminder that parents will not be permitted to drop off students in the school grounds.

Arrival at school

- Students will enter through different gates depending on year groups. They will move to their designated area until school begins and these areas will be used for their breaks and lunchtimes.
- Students with face masks will have an area to remove them and disinfect.

Lessons

- A FULL curriculum will operate - all subjects, full days
- **Year 7 and Year 8 will remain in their form groups for most lessons to minimise contact elsewhere. This means that they will NOT be taught in ability groups in any subject until these regulations relax.**
- **Years 9 to 11 will be in year group “bubbles” throughout each day.**
- Classrooms will where possible be changed to be forward facing desks.
- There is specific guidance for some subjects where physical activity is a key part of lessons: PE, Dance, Drama, Music. Teachers will explain this to students in lessons.
- Equipment in classrooms will be cleaned regularly.
- Students MUST bring a pen, pencil and ruler. These cannot be shared between students.
- Bags are allowed.

Break and lunchtime

- Students are encouraged to bring a packed lunch if possible.

- Students with free school meals will continue to receive a meal daily.
- School will NOT operate a breakfast service before school.
- At break time, cold snacks will be available to purchase. These will be from a reduced range.
- At lunch time, hot and cold meals will be available. These will be from a reduced range.
- Students will use their designated area only for every break and lunchtime. Students will move directly to this area, and receive their meals in this area. Separate queues will be in place where two year groups are together, but the size of the spaces mean that we can accommodate large groups in these areas. Students will not move between these areas.
 - Year 7 - Drama Studio and Tennis Courts
 - Years 8 and 9 - Sports Hall and external area around Sports Hall
 - Years 10 and 11 - canteen and front play area

Movement around school

- Students will be permitted to move around corridors following our one way system. Students must ensure they are on time to lessons.
- Students will be provided with ONE staircase to use at all times when moving between floors.
 - Year 7 - back staircase near music
 - Year 8 - middle back staircase
 - Year 9 - middle back staircase
 - Year 10 - front staircase near student entrance
 - Year 11 - HART staircase

The end of the school day

- Year 7 are escorted and supervised to the gates at 3.05pm. All other year groups leave at 3.10pm.
- For those students who use school buses: students will have a bus queue within the school gates, and be directed to the buses in a particular order.

Other key matters

- Help is available for students in school with these arrangements if they need further help or specific guidance. This should initially be arranged through the Year Inclusion Manager.
- Parents must not visit school unless via a pre-arranged appointment. Parents and visitors will be escorted within the school building.
- There is an expectation that ALL students will attend school from September: in line with government instruction to schools, this is not optional. We adopt a policy of working with parents, and will work to resolve issues via our attendance or pastoral team.
- There will be no assemblies in large groups. Unless essential, assemblies will not operate.
- Extra curricular groups may operate, but only within the student “bubbles”.
- Students must co-operate with these new expectations. We know that the vast

majority will. For those who repeatedly choose not to do so, we will be asking parents to support us in enforcing it for the benefit and safety of everyone.

Work during the summer

Students can continue to quiz on Tassomai and Educake, and watch GCSEPods, regularly throughout the school holidays. Mrs Taylor - our school librarian - has produced a suggested reading list for students during the school holidays. Parents can access this on Google Classroom or Edulink. Look for Mrs Taylor's suggested reading list.

Confirmation of pastoral leaders from September

We have made some essential changes to our pastoral team from September and the new arrangements are detailed here:

	Year Achievement Leader	Year Inclusion Manager	Member of Senior Leadership Team
Year 7	Mrs J Tonge	Mrs T Taylor	Mrs J Dee
Year 8	Mr M Mujagic	Mrs E Knee	Mrs G Kennedy
Year 9	Mrs H Massey	Mrs M Lewis	Mr D Willis
Year 10	Mrs L Aspinall	Ms J Hunt	Mr G Norman
Year 11	Mrs L Taylor	Mrs S Barnard	Mrs R Chantler

Student Leadership Team

A massive congratulations to our Student Leadership Team for 2020/2021, who have been appointed within the last week! After a virtual application process we are thrilled to announce that **Katie Hill** and **Charlie Vjestica** will be our new Head Girl and Boy and we know they'll lead the team fantastically well. They will be well supported by our new Deputy Head Girl **Amelia Wilkinson** and Deputy Head Boy **Mason Littlewood**. We wish the team every success for September.

Staff who are leaving us

I would like to thank the following Werneth staff for their service to our school. They will be leaving us at the end of this week: Mr Sims - History; Mrs Young - Science; Mr Millson - Geography. Mrs Walsh has also been with us for two terms in Drama, and she also leaves us this week. We also thank Miss Flynn, who has supported teachers in Science this year.

We are fully staffed for September, and in fact we are increasing our number of teachers in some areas to accommodate our student numbers as they continue to increase.

Term Dates for 2020/21 Academic Year

AUTUMN HALF TERM 1 -

Tuesday 1st September 2020 - Start of academic year with staggered returns for students as shown above.

Thursday 22nd October 2020 Students break up for half term

AUTUMN HALF TERM 2 -

Monday 2nd November 2020 Students return after half term

Friday 4th December 2020 Students not in school on this day

Tuesday 22nd December 2020 Students break up for Christmas

SPRING HALF TERM 1 -

Monday 11th January 2021 Students return after Christmas

Friday 12th February 2021 Students break up for half term

SPRING HALF TERM 2 -

Monday 22nd February 2021 Students return after half term

Friday 26th March 2021 Students break up for Easter

SUMMER HALF TERM 1

Monday 12th April 2021 Students return after Easter

Friday 28th May 2021 Students break up for half term

SUMMER HALF TERM 2

Monday 7th June 2021 Students return after half term

Monday 28th June 2021 Students not in school on this day

Wednesday 21st July 2021 School breaks up for summer

And finally

Again, I know there is a lot of information here but it is all very important obviously.

Thank you for all of your support during this academic year: it has been a year that none of us will forget and I am sure parents can't wait for your children to return in September.

We have missed them and we share your relief that some degree of normality will resume. Please keep an eye on the website and your emails in case we need to communicate any further changes to you before September.

Have a great summer, and we will see you in September.

Yours sincerely,

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

Mr A Conroy
Headteacher

- Please see attachment on uniform

WERNETH SCHOOL UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2020

Item	Boys	Girls
Blazer	Black with school logo.	
Jumper	Red with school logo.	
Trousers / Skirt	Black tailored school trousers.	Black skirt or black tailored school trousers.
Shirt / Blouse	White school shirt, either short sleeved or long sleeved.	
Tie	School tie only, must be worn correctly and tied to the top of the collar.	
Shoes	Black plain footwear below the ankle bone. (STRICTLY NO TRAINERS, AIR FORCE ONEs, MALLETS etc.)	
Socks / Tights	Black socks worn below the knee or black tights.	
Jewellery	Only a wrist watch and one pair of studded earrings worn in the ear lobes are permitted. No facial piercings, ear spacers, stretchers or tunnels.	
Bag	Strong waterproof bag, no handbags. The bag needs to be large enough to hold an A4 file.	
Equipment	All students need appropriate equipment for learning, including a pen, pencil, planner and ruler. They will need subject specific equipment such as a scientific calculator for Maths.	
Make-up	Years 7, 8 and 9 – <u>None.</u>	Years 10 and 11 – <u>Discreet.</u>
Nail varnish	None. OR False Nails	
Hair	No extreme hair styles, such as shaved, patterned style or unnatural colours.	

Outdoor Wear	<p>A dark plain coat. (Not to be worn in the school buildings). No scarves or gloves in the school buildings. No hooded tops, sweatshirts, denim or leather coats.</p>	
PE Kit	<p>Footwear: trainers with molded sole, football boots (screw in studs recommended for team players). Clothing: red and black reversible rugby shirt.</p>	<p>Footwear: trainers with molded sole, football or hockey boots are recommended for school team players.</p>
<p>Red polo shirt, optional black sweatshirt, black shorts, red socks. Optional black tracksuit trousers.</p>		
Expressive Arts' Kit	<p>Black T-shirt. Black tracksuit trousers (as PE kit). Please note that trainers will be used for Dance and Drama under the COVID situation.</p>	
Suppliers	<p><u>Monkhouse Schoolwear</u>, 217 Chestergate, Stockport. http://www.monkhouse.com/category/223/Werneth_School <u>Bonnie Bouncer</u>, Stockport Road, Bredbury.</p>	

Appearance

Students at Werneth School wear uniform and have a code of appearance. All uniform and PE/Expressive Arts Kit requirements are obtainable from our suppliers Monkhouses and Bonnie Bouncer. School uniform is worn for visits, which take place during the school day, but this regulation is waived when other clothing is more appropriate, e.g. on Geography Field Study visits, at college or work placements. For visits outside school hours, students are asked to present themselves suitably dressed for the particular occasion.

Clothing grants are available to students of Year 7 under certain circumstances. For information and an application form for a grant, please contact Stockport Town Hall Admissions' Service.

FOOTWEAR CLARIFICATION

Acceptable Footwear - Plain Black



Not Acceptable Footwear

