



21 July 2020

Dear Parents

As promised, another letter. This one is specifically to explain to you how teaching and learning is going to feel a little bit different in September, based on the current government guidelines.

The first big difference is that your child will spend the majority of their lessons in one area of the school, their bubble, and instead of moving all around the school their teacher will come to them in their bubble. On occasions, they will move to a specialist classroom and when they do they will follow a one-way system to get to that room. The classrooms that are not part of bubbles will be cleaned in between usage.

In line with the government guidelines the pupils will sit in rows facing the front of the classroom rather than in groups, as is currently the case in many of our rooms. Although this will not be the case in classrooms with fixed furniture like the science laboratories we will nevertheless aim to space out the children as much as possible.

Teaching is going to feel a bit different as the guidance requires teachers to maintain a 2 meter social distance between themselves and the pupils. This means that we will make more use of mini white boards and visualisers to check for understanding and to help explain. We will provide each child with their own mini white board. Over the summer holidays the majority of our classrooms will be fitted with interactive TV screens so we will be able to project excellent quality images in the classrooms.

Our pupils have demonstrated a high level of determination and taken responsibility for their learning during the school closure and we need them to continue to take this approach. It is going to be essential that all pupils bring the equipment they need to learn and you will find a list of the things required at the end of this letter. We will not be able to lend equipment so if your child does not bring what they need they will be needlessly disadvantaging themselves. We would be very grateful if you could support your sons and daughters packing their bags until good organisation has become a habit for them. It is important that your child has a suitably sized school bag to keep their equipment and books in as they will not have a class base where they can leave their exercise books. We will be selling pencil cases with all the equipment they need at the cost price of £4, we will let you know how to order these nearer to September.

We will not be able to accept or deliver forgotten kit, cookery ingredients or packed lunches during the school day so again can we ask you to ensure that your child is fully equipped for all their lessons before they leave the house in the morning. We make sure that recipes are posted well in advance to allow the children to give you plenty of warning about when they are cooking.



We have all made massive strides in developing our remote teaching and learning and from September we will migrate our resources from our Moodle VLE to Microsoft Teams. All lesson resources will be available on Teams and this is where the pupils will find much of their homework. We will use Class Charts to itemise the homework set and this is the easiest way for you to check homework completion.

We are still working on the precise arrangements in relation to teaching PE. Suffice to say your children will need PE kit for some of their PE lessons and we will confirm the exact arrangements in September. Similarly, we are awaiting further guidance from the government about the management of music lessons including peripatetic lessons.

At the end of this letter you will see the list of necessary equipment. Can I stress again that your child will need a bag large enough to accommodate A4 books and folders but not so big that it will not fit under their chair in the classroom. Pupils will not have access to any locker storage space at the beginning of term.

I hope the above helps with your planning for September and I am really looking forward to seeing all our pupils again and welcoming our new Year 7 pupils.

With all best wishes for a happy summer.

Yours faithfully

Victoria Hill
Vice Principal

Equipment List

Pencil case	2 black pens (biro/roller ball)
1 green pen (biro/roller ball)	2 pencils
1 rubber	1 pencil sharpener
1 white board pen (wipeable)	1 ruler
1 glue stick	1 small roll of sellotape
1 small pair of paper scissors	1 highlighter
1 pack of coloured pencils	Maths set, including compass

Scientific calculator (available to purchase from the Maths department)