



Dear Parents and Carers

3 September 2021

Return to School for Students September 2021

We are looking forward to seeing all students back in school on 7th September with Year 7 joining us on 6th September. Please note that students should not be on site any earlier than 8.30; from that time onwards, staff will be at the front of school to direct students to the correct location. On Monday 6th September, Year 7 students should come to the main reception area; I would ask that, if driving, parents drop off their children in the car park and do not drive on to the turning circle - parents are welcome to walk their children to the door.

All students should be in full school uniform on Monday and Tuesday, even if PE is on their timetable. From Wednesday 8th September onwards, PE kit should be worn on the days that students have PE on their timetables. Please make sure that your child has the correct school PE kit and the correct daily equipment each day including a purple pen – these can be purchased from a range of outlets including Amazon; if you are struggling to find one, we will arrange to have a supply in school that students can purchase. If you are unsure about any uniform or equipment, please see the video using the link on our webpage:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DCCmRG6M-ro>

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind you that mobile phones are now to be kept in bags and not used during the school day; if you need to get a message to your child or they need to contact you this should be done through the school office. The number for the office is 01458 832943.

As you will have seen from Mr Williams' letter, all restrictions have been lifted and schools are expected to return to a more normal daily routine. However, as there has been a rise in cases in the South West, I would like to inform you of some measures that will be in place to try to keep everyone as safe as possible.

Measures in place include:

An updated risk assessment has been written which includes an outbreak contingency plan. This document will be published on our school website ready for the start of term.

From Tuesday 7th September onwards, and until further notice, all students will enter and exit the school via the gate at the bottom of the drive as it is a wide entrance and so will avoid bottlenecks of large groups of students.

All students who have consent, will be asked to take two lateral flow tests at the start of the school year. As there is no obligation to send close contacts home if anyone is tested positive, we have made the decision not to delay the start to the teaching year but to test year groups while



they are in school. However, if you have lateral flow test kits at home, it would be very much appreciated if your child took a test at the weekend prior to coming into school.

Once in school, we are returning to students moving between classes rather than teachers commuting across the site. To keep proximity in these spaces limited, we have put a range of measures in place.

The system will be explained to students when they are in school and signs will be in place but, in essence, the plan is as follows:

- One way systems will be put in place between and within buildings including staircases.
- Students will not line up to enter lessons in corridors but will be asked to stand behind chairs to mark the start and end of each lesson
- Separate dining rooms will be in place for key stages to reduce numbers in those rooms
- Students will line up at the end of break and lunchtimes to be escorted to lessons by teachers
- For term 1, we will be asking students who have PE on their timetable to come to school in their PE kit to avoid using changing rooms where space is limited
- Whilst the requirement for face coverings has been removed, students and staff will be encouraged to wear face coverings in high traffic, communal areas such as corridors during lesson change over.

In addition to the above, hand sanitiser stations will be kept in place and students will be reminded and encouraged to use these regularly. Regular cleaning of door handles and high traffic areas will continue throughout the day with thorough cleaning of all rooms taking place every day after school.

Obviously, if there is a significant outbreak, locally or nationally, we will follow government guidance. We hope that the extra measures detailed above will allow school to be a safe place for all students and staff.

We do appreciate your support - if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us via secretary@stdunstansschool.com. We are looking forward to a great school year.

Yours sincerely

Lynda Bevan
Headteacher



St Dunstan's School

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