

Dear Parent/Carer

**Start of Term Arrangements: Year 7**

This letter sets out the arrangements for the start of term. Please find enclosed:

- TUS Newsletter (August 2021)
- Covid Testing Consent Form
- Letter about Modern Foreign Languages (Year 7 only)

These documents are also on our website.

The government has recommended that schools carry out Lateral Flow Tests on site before admitting children into classrooms in September. Please note these tests are designed for children without Covid symptoms and will be supervised by trained school staff. We will be testing two year groups per day as detailed below. By allocating specific groups of children to be tested in particular time slots we are reducing mixing of children until they have been tested at school. **Many parents have previously consented to testing and you do not need to consent again.** I hope even more families will see the advantages of Lateral Flow testing prior to a return to the classroom and so will now complete this form which your child can bring to school with them. The success of this testing rests on us being able to confirm as many children as possible do not have Covid-19 and can safely return to the classroom. School staff will also be testing before returning from the Summer break and the majority are 'double vaccinated'.

Your child does not have to be in school uniform when they come for testing. Parents who accompany children for testing will be asked to wait in the playground or Paragon Road. You will not be able to come into the building (a second test will be carried out during lessons early in the term).

**Lateral Flow Tests**

Year 7      Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September (8.30am-12.00pm)

Year 7 – Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> am	
Surnames A-C	8.30am
Surnames D-G	9.00am
Surnames H-K	9.30am
Surnames L-O	10.00am
Surnames P-S	11.00am
Surnames T-Z	11.30am

The need to carry out testing means that we will have a staggered start to the Autumn Term.

**First Day of Term:**

Year 7	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> September at 8.30am
Year 8	Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> September at 8.30am
Year 9	Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> September at 8.30am
Year 10	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> September at 9.30am
Year 11	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> September at 9.30am
Year 12	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> September at 9.30am
Year 13	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> September at 1.30pm

Please note Years 7, 8 and 9 start school at 8.30am and finish at 2.45pm. Year 10 and 11 usually start at 9.30am and finish at either 3.45pm or 4.45pm depending on their timetable for Catch Up and Revision lessons.

The **School Library** is open to Year 11 and the Sixth Form on **Saturdays between 9.30am and 3.00pm** starting on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> September.

Unless they are medically exempt, students will be required to wear face coverings in corridors and other public indoor areas but not in lessons. Children who travel on public transport are also expected to wear face coverings on buses, tubes and trains.

Parents and visitors will not be admitted to the school site without an appointment and will also be expected to have a temperature check and wear a face covering.

We were very successful last term in reducing the risk of virus transmission. Our high levels of attendance (over 93%) and lack of positive cases meant that education could continue without 'bubbles' being sent home or high level of staff absences. We worked together as a community to reduce the risk of illness and will continue to put in place measures designed to keep the school safe.

With thanks for your support.



Richard Brown  
Executive Headteacher