



25<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Dear Parents, carers and students,

I hope that you are all well and enjoying your summer break. Whilst there's still some time left to enjoy the holidays, I'd like to take the opportunity to start giving you some advance information regarding September Opening.

To begin with, we will open fully, in full uniform, to all year groups as published on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September. Our new Year 7 are having a morning Induction session on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September as well in preparation for this. Mr Roberts will be writing again to new Year 7 students early next week regarding this.

From September there will be some changes and some things that will remain the same. The changes relate essentially to the logistics of maintaining social distancing and reducing the risk of Covid-19 infection. I want to reassure you from the outset that we will follow all Government Guidance and create as bio-secure an environment for students as is possible. I am confident that given the measures we will have in place that the school will be able to open safely to all students and staff.

On Friday I will email you with guidance that will detail:

- Staggering the start and end of the school day (see below)
- Arrangements for uniform, lunches and breaks
- Expectations regarding social distancing, conduct and behaviour
- Hygiene expectations and routines
- The current position on the wearing of face masks
- The curriculum, Enrichment and Catch up
- Managing absence and illness
- How to raise questions or concerns before September
- Responding to any lockdown

One thing I will confirm now is how we plan to stagger the start and end of the school day. Essentially, Year 7 and 11 will follow the normal timetable as do Y8 except they finish 5 minutes earlier to facilitate a staggered exit for Lower school pupils. Years 9 and 10 start 10 minutes later and finish ten minutes later as this table shows:

Year Group	7	8	9	10	11
Start Time	8.45 am	8.45 am	8.55 am	8.55 am	8.45 am
Finish time	3.00 pm	2.55 pm	3.10 pm	3.10 pm	3.00 pm

I said earlier that whilst there will be some changes some things will remain the same. What is unchanged is our commitment to give your sons and daughters the best education they can possibly receive. GCSE results from last week were a fair reflection of the strong progress our students have made over a number of years, emerging as articulate, bright but resilient individuals and I have every confidence this tradition will continue. I will write again on Friday. In the meantime, stay safe and keep dodging the showers!

Regards

Tim Long