



19 July 2021

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Dear Parents and Carers

As another challenging academic year draws to a close, I would like to thank you all for your ongoing support of the College. Covid-19 has certainly presented us with numerous problems to solve and the requirement to respond rapidly to change. It has tested the resilience of parents, carers, students and staff alike. I am sure, like us, you are hoping for a disruption free academic year in 2021-22, with a semblance of normality restored and the usual enriching opportunities and events fully available to students. We are expecting a visit from Ofsted in the autumn term, so I hope that this takes place with the College in full flow. If you would like to complete the Ofsted Parent View Survey please do so via this link: [Ofsted Parent View](#). We welcome all feedback from parents as this helps us consider ways in which we can improve our systems and address any issues should it be deemed necessary.

Much has been achieved during the summer term despite the challenges presented by Covid-19. For example:

- Running a mini exam series for Years 11 and 13, followed by marking, moderating, grading, checking and submission of around 2000 grades to the examination boards
- Modifying transition events for Year 6 so that they could go ahead, giving students the chance to meet key members of staff and get to know the layout of the College site
- A successful and inclusive Sports Day, with an excellent rate of participation
- Summer concert which took place outdoors on South Site
- Drama production at St Michael's Church
- Two PSHE days and several follow-up sessions guided by student voice
- Three weeks of Post 16 introductory lessons for Year 11 students
- Minimal disruption due to Covid-19, resulting in high attendance and good curriculum coverage

The start of September is going to be very busy, as whilst we welcome our students back we have been tasked with guiding our students through two on-site lateral flow tests, 3 to 5 days apart.

A short 'Summer School' will be running for a targeted group of New Year 7 students from Wednesday, 1 September until Friday 3 September. The full body of College staff will start back on Monday, 6 September with an INSET training day. Students will begin a phased return from Tuesday, 7 September.

Our current plan for lateral flow testing and the phased return of students is as follows:

Date	Activity	Lateral Flow Testing Schedule
01/09/2021	Summer school for new Y7	
02/09/2021	Summer school for new Y7	
03/09/2021	Summer school for new Y7	Y12 & Y13 in College for 1 st test appointment and return home.
WEEK 1		
06/09/2021	INSET Day	Y12 & Y13 in College for 2 nd test appointment and return home.
07/09/2021	Y7 and Y12 induction days	Y7 in College for 1 st test and remain in College all day. Y11 in College for 1 st first test appointment and return home.
08/09/2021	Y11 and Y13 return	Y9 and Y10 in College for 1 st test appointment and return home.
09/09/2021	Y8, Y9 and Y10 return	Y8 in College for 1 st test and remain in College all day.
10/09/2021	Full timetable in operation	Y7 and Y11 – 2 nd tests carried out within the normal day.
WEEK 2		
13/09/2021	Full timetable in operation	Y9 and Y10 – 2 nd tests carried out within the normal day.
14/09/2021	Full timetable in operation	Y8 – 2 nd tests carried out within the normal day.

We will be sending out appointment times for lateral flow tests towards the end of August or start of September.

Health and Safety

At the time of writing this letter, the essential safety measures as designated by the DfE for September 2021 are:

1. Ensure good hygiene for everyone.
2. Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes.
3. Keep occupied spaces well ventilated.
4. Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of Covid-19

Mixing and ‘bubbles’

It will no longer be necessary to keep children in consistent groups (‘bubbles’). As well as enabling flexibility in curriculum delivery, this means that we will no longer need to make alternative arrangements to avoid students mixing at break and lunch. This is undoubtedly much simpler to manage than last year, but it may be liable to change.

Close contacts and isolation

From 16 August 2021, children under the age of 18 years old will no longer be required to self-isolate if they are contacted by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case. Instead, NHS Test and Trace will contact children to inform them that they have been in close contact with a positive case and advise them to take a PCR test. We would encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so. Eighteen year-olds will be treated in the same way as children, until 4 months after their 18th birthday, to allow them the opportunity to get fully vaccinated: at which point, they will be subject to the same rules as adults and so if they choose not to get vaccinated, they will need to self-isolate if identified as a close contact.

Face Coverings

Face coverings will no longer be advised for students, staff and visitors either in classrooms or in communal areas. The current government recommendation is that face coverings should be worn on dedicated transport to College while prevalence of Covid-19 is high. This will be kept under review.

Uniform

During this last half term we have attempted to simplify our Uniform Policy and have responded positively to student voice on choices within our PE kit. A new visual guide to our uniform is attached. Additional details may be found on our website.

From September, we will expect students to arrive in their normal uniform every day. We will revert back to the usual practice of changing into PE kit for PE lessons. We are hoping that students who are unable to participate in PE, e.g. due to a mild illness or injury, still bring their PE kit and fulfil alternative duties such as officiating and coaching within the lesson. Understandably, if students are outside during winter months they may choose to wear warmer layers, e.g. tracksuit bottoms instead of shorts.

Please ensure that your child wears the correct College uniform each day. We want the students to look smart and confident in their uniform, and minimise the chance of conflict over these issues.

Positive behaviour

The College remains committed to high standards, and we encourage positive behaviour from students. We will continue to record Attitude to Learning (ATL) grades in our lesson registers, and encourage students to aim for grades of 4 and 5 on our ATL scale.

Low-level disruption is tackled through our ‘Ready to Learn’ behaviour system. There are four simple rules that we expect students to abide by in lessons:

- Follow instructions promptly
- Remain on task
- Listen when others are speaking
- Speak appropriately, with polite and respectful language

We also expect students to demonstrate respect to others and the College environment. Students should move around the College in an appropriate manner and remain on site during the College day. Good behaviour is expected on the journey to and from College, when students are wearing our uniform and interacting with members of the local community.

Please remind your child not to trespass on the College site during the summer holidays or on evenings and weekends. Students do not have a right of access outside the normal College day. Our facilities, however, may be booked for community use via the College website.

College Equipment

As a bare-minimum, we recommend a pencil case containing a black, blue and green pen, pencil, ruler, pencil sharpener and eraser. Students should also have their own calculator. It would also be helpful if students have a glue stick and a set of highlighters. Thank you for your support with this.

Mobile phones

Please remember that there is a ban on the use of mobile phones by students whilst on the College site. Mobile phones should be **'off and away'** at all times, and any phone seen or heard will be confiscated until the end of the school day. This includes phones on display in shirt pockets.

Staffing

Sadly, as we reach the end of an academic year, we inevitably say farewell to a number of staff. Two of these members of staff have been with us for quite some time and have made the difficult decision to retire. They are Ms Dickinson and Mrs Owen. Ms Dickinson has worked for the College for 26 years as an Art Teacher, Head of Art and, more recently, as Head of Faculty for Visual and Performing Arts. Mrs Owen joined the College 20 years ago in our Child Care Department, which has evolved in recent years into Health and Social Care. We are also saying farewell to Mr Lewis, Assistant Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead, who has secured a promoted post in the St Austell area. Mrs Laban is also moving on this year to take up a Head of Geography position in Truro.

A number of other teachers are also leaving us in August, including Mr Welsh (Computing), Miss Martin (RE), Mrs Gilbert (English) and Miss Ward (Science/Engineering). Ms Goodall (English) and Mr Bispham (Science) are semi-retiring, but coming back for a much reduced timetable. Mr Brown (Science) is staying with us but moving to a Science Technician role.

In our support staff, we are saying goodbye to Mr Wright, Mrs Fairey and Miss Lord from our Science Technician team and Mrs Dudley from South Site Reception. Our Examinations Manager, Ms Varker is also leaving us having endured many unexpected challenges in the last couple of years.

This is certainly an unprecedented year with so many staff moving on, adding up to approximately 130 years of service to the College. We are thankful to all of these staff for all they have brought to the life of the College, and for their commitment to the students: I am sure you will join with me in wishing them all the very best in their future plans.

I wish you all a very happy and enjoyable summer holiday. Over the holiday period, we will be adding additional detail to our plans and will produce a parent/carer handbook for the new academic year, which contains essential information. Please be aware that these plans are set on the current government guidance for September. Should the guidance change over the summer, our plans will need to be adjusted. Therefore, we advise parents and carers to check their emails and keep an eye on the College website, as we will use these methods to communicate any changes and keep everyone updated.

Yours sincerely



Mr Wayne Jenkins
Headteacher

Attached: Uniform Guide