

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to you in order to outline new plans for the start of term in September 2021. In a previous letter we informed you that Year 7 would be joining us for familiarisation days on the 2nd/3rd September. However this week, we have received new government instructions to test all students twice before they return to school in the autumn. This is to limit the risk of a surge of cases in September after a summer holiday spent travelling and potentially mixing with larger numbers of people. The familiarisation days will still be offered as part of the induction process but will be moved to Monday 6th and Tuesday 7th of September.

Therefore, all students are now required to do 2 on-site lateral flow device tests (LFT) 3 to 5 days apart before the start of the autumn term. To facilitate this we have made the following arrangements:

Thursday 2nd September - Lateral Flow Test 1

Students will arrive at the College **back school entrance** by the car park of Raynham Road only at the given time slot (see table). Please see the top of this letter for your **child's tutor group number** which we have used below to ensure that families arrive in a steady flow rather than all together; please keep to the time allocated and remain socially distanced. Students are to come into College in **full school uniform** where they will have their school photograph taken for our internal use only; be provided with a new pencil case full of all the equipment they need; meet their tutor and take a Lateral Flow Test. Parents/carers can accompany their child during this time if they so wish or if students are feeling anxious. This process will take approximately 1 hour from the time you are asked to arrive and following this students can return home with you exiting via the same car park back entrance.

Tutor Group	Thurs 2nd Sept
7.1	8.15am - 8.30am
7.2	8.15am - 8.30am
7.3	8.30 - 8.45am
7.4	8.45 - 9.00am
7.5	9.00 - 9.15am
7.6	9.15 - 9.30am
7.7	9.30 - 9.45am
7.8	9.45 - 10.00am
7.9	10.00 - 10.15am
7.10	10.15 - 10.30am
7.11	10.30 - 10.45am
7.12	10.45 - 11.00am

Principal Miss A Frier BSc (Hons), M.Ed

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Friday 3rd September - All Year 7 students will remain at home while we test other year groups.

Monday 6th September - Lateral Flow Test 2 and Familiarisation Day 1 - **9am-3.00pm**

Students will be required to be onsite for 9am entering the College via the back gate and will be dismissed via our **main reception** or **back gate** at 3pm. They will need to be in full school uniform with their school bag and pencil case. Students will be tested first thing in the morning and will then commence their induction programme.

Tuesday 7th September - Familiarisation Day 2 - **8.35am-3.00pm**

Students will arrive in College at 8.35am from either back gate (**Raynham Road or Allotment**) and are to be collected or walk home at 3pm. Students will be required to wear full uniform and have their equipment and school bag.

The School Day

From September, to ensure our school site remains safe and secure we will be opening all gates at **8.25am**. Students are not permitted on site before that time unless attending a supervised activity.

7.45am-8.15am students may enter the College via the main reception and attend one of the following clubs:

- Breakfast club where they are provided with a free breakfast and a quiet space to talk to friends
- Sports activities on the Astro or Sportshall
- Homework Club where they are able to receive support with self questioning, Hegarty, Tassomai and Bedrock

Morning provision and breakfast is free and part of our offering to all students. Students not attending our morning provision will be allowed onsite from **8.25am**.

Early Closure

Please be reminded that our annual College Open Evening will take place on **Wednesday 15th September**. To enable us to prepare the College we will be closing to all students from 12.20pm. For those parents of Y7 we can offer childcare until 3pm within the library. Please contact Ms MacManus if you require this provision.

Uniform

Reminder all school uniform must be ordered via our website and will be available for collection from college between 10am and 2pm on any weekday in the holiday. You will be notified from our reception team when your uniform has arrived.

We expect students to wear 'traditional', well-constructed, weather-proof, leather or leather-type shoes with a low heel. Trainers - black or otherwise, including popular designs such as Nike Air, Converse or Vans-style shoes - are not acceptable. For those wishing clarification on our uniform standards and expectations, further [guidance can be found on the College's website](#).

Just to clarify:

No false nails or nail varnish

No extreme hair colour or styles

Permitted: one pair of plain silver or gold small earrings, a watch, one plain ring

No retainers or facial piercings

What to bring to school

All students must bring a suitable bag to school as they will be required to carry their books for the day to and from school.

They must also have the following:

- a reading book
- a refillable water bottle (new water fountains can be used at break times)

They will be issued with the following which they must bring each day:

- School pencil case and equipment (they are checked daily, and we have a school shop for replacements)
- Homework book (issued in Week 2)
- Knowledge organiser (issued in Week 2)
- School books

Optional: They may have other equipment items, such as coloured pencils etc which must be in a separate pencil case of their own.

In addition to this, please top up the parentpay account with £2 to purchase any equipment that needs replacing. This might need topping up throughout the year but will ensure that all students have the equipment needed for learning.

Mobile Phones

We recognise that a mobile phone is in the interests of safety for the journey to and from College that students may carry phones in their bags. However we do restrict the use of electronic devices due to their impact on student learning and therefore they must be switched off before entering the College site in the morning and should not be turned on again until they exit the school site at the end of the day. The main reception can be used for emergency communication.

Further information

Video on expectations and standards are currently on our website transition page. This year we have had to be extremely flexible and plan transition in response to a fast moving international situation. Plans have had to change but the safety of our children and our community is of paramount importance to us and remains our priority always.

We really look forward to meeting you in September and working with you over the next phase of your child's education journey.

Hope you have a safe and enjoyable summer.

Yours faithfully,



Anita Frier
Principal