

1st September 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians

We hope you have had a relaxing summer break and managed to take some time out from the worries and uncertainty of the pandemic.

It is with great pleasure and relief that we are able to welcome your sons/daughters back to school from Thursday and Friday.

Please find attached a full and detailed reopening handbook, which we would appreciate you going through with your son/daughter before the start of school.

Thursday 3 September – Induction for Year 7 and 12

Year 7 – arrive for 8.40am where students will be greeted at the gates and shown where to go to their form rooms. The Café is open for lunch and break.

Year 12 – arrive between 8.15am and 8.35am. Students to go to the sixth form centre to pick up their individual timetable for the day. The snack shack is open for lunch and break. However, for students new to the school, please bring a packed lunch as we can only set up individual biometric accounts at 3pm on Thursday and over the course of Friday. From Friday, Year 12 and 13 students will be able to order their food using the Chartwell's App. More information about this will be given to the students.

Friday 4th September – School opens for Year 7-13

All students to have read the reopening handbook attached and to arrive by 8.40am and wait *outside* the building where their form room is situated for their form tutor to collect them.

Tutor Rooms 2020-2021

Year 7		Year 8	
7B	E2	8B	L9
7C	G1	8C	L2
7G	S1	8G	L1
7H	M4	8H	E3
7L	S6	8L	T10
7S	S10	8S	M1
7T	H3	8T	POR2
7W	S3	8W	E4
Year 9		Year 10	
9B	E6	10C	L4
9C	H4	10G	G3
9G	POR1	10H	M5
9H	M6	10L	G4
9L	B1	10S	H1
9S	L3	10T	P1
9T	T7	10W	E1
9W	G2		

Year 11		Co-Headteachers Mrs Anne Kennedy and Mrs Katie Pearce	
11C	H2		
11G	SS2		
11H	M7		
11L	SS3		
11S	L8		
11T	E5		
11W	E7		
Sixth Form Tutor Rooms for Friday 4 th September			
Year 12		Year 13	
12Bkr	SS1	13Rm	T9
12Sn	SS1	13Ss	B2
12Wr	T8	13Wv	A2
12Ra	T3	13Da	A5
12Sk	A1	13Hu	A5
12Wm	T3	13 Kl	A2
12We	S9		
12Dy	S9		
12Rw	S7		
12Db	T4		
12Dm	T8		

Students will be in their form room for periods 1 and 2. They will be issued with their timetable as well as be taken through the Covid protocols that we have put in place including hygiene and cleaning routines, one way systems, the protocols for arriving and leaving lessons, the new timings of lessons and the arrangements that we have put in place for break and lunch time to ensure students stay in their year group bubbles.

Timetabled lessons will commence period 3.

Face coverings

We are recommending that face coverings are worn by students in corridors during lesson change over, however they remain optional during lessons. If the health guidance changes from the Public Health Team or the DFE, we will alter our advice accordingly.

Uniform

According to the weather forecast for the next two weeks, we are expecting a mini heatwave! Therefore, we are extending summer uniform rules for two more weeks. We will be back in touch on Friday 18th September to confirm the winter uniform rules. In the meantime, summer rules are as follows:

- Black or navy opaque tights or black or navy ankle/knee socks.
- Hair must be tied up at all times
- Hoodies are not permitted.
- Blazers to be worn at all times for Year 7-10
- One earring in each ear, concealing make-up only and no nail varnish, false nails, or false eye lashes

Lunch and break times

Students will be outside in accordance with DFE guidance at break and lunchtime. We will have marquees for each year group after October half term. For the next 8 weeks however, students will be outdoors on the field in zoned areas per year group. If it rains, students are not able to go into classrooms for the shortened breaks, as we have staggered the break and lunch times, so please ensure your daughter has a decent raincoat and

umbrella. A picnic blanket would be good for a group of friends to share when the weather is dry, as there will be no outdoor furniture available.

Public Transport

Please find attached some guidance from Reading Buses and South Western Railways. SWR have a dedicated page on their website www.southwesternrailway.com/backtoschool.

We have also attached the bus timetable from WBC for the 202 and 244.

Cycling

WBC have sent a clip suggesting a good cycle route from Lower Earley. Here is the link to <https://www.relive.cc/view/vJOK92kK75q>. We have a secure bus shelter that can be found by gate 3. Students are reminded that they should push their bikes on the pavement along Holt Lane as it is narrow and becomes very congested.

Dropping off and picking up

Please remember to drop off and pick up on Jubilee Avenue, as there is no access to the school site for parents at these times and Holt Lane becomes very congested and a danger to safety.

Visitors on site

Visitors may only come on site if they have been given prior permission from us, or for medical emergencies. If your son/daughter has forgotten any of their equipment, please be reminded that we do not allow parents/guardians on site to drop it off.

Frog/IT update

Use of SIMS apps for home learning

In order to provide a better integrated service to help you keep in touch with communications, we will no longer be using Frog. Instead of using Frog for posting home learning, we will set home learning using the SIMS platform and timetables will be on Sims as well. Parents of returning students will already be familiar with the SIMS Parent app. A further guide to checking home learning will be sent out separately. New parents and students will need to download the **SIMS Parent** or **SIMS Student** app from Apple's App Store or Google Play. Web based versions are also available. You will receive further guidance on how to register and log on in the next few days so please wait until you have this information before setting up.

While students are familiarising themselves with the new system, it is important that they make a written note of all home learning. If you or your son/daughter have any problems in using the SIMS apps, please contact datateam@holt.wokingham.sch.uk.

Parent Information Evenings

We will send out information as the different events approach, but for this term, we will be running the following as live *Teams* events that you can watch from the comfort of your sofa!

Year 7 parents' welcome evening – Wednesday 9th September at 6.30pm
Year 12 parents' information evening- Wednesday 16th September at 6.30pm
Year 13 parents' information evening- Wednesday 23rd September at 6.30pm
Year 11 into 6th form evening – Thursday 8th October at 6pm
KS4 parents' information evening- Wednesday 21st October at 6.30pm

Please do go through the handbook and if you have any questions please email your son/daughters' Head of Year.

As a final reminder, please note our new temporary end of school day is at 3pm.

We will start our weekly Wednesday blogs next week, which are designed to give you an overview of the week as well as anything relevant that has captured our interest. This year, we will do the first two, and then a different member of the leadership team will write it and this cycle will continue throughout the year.

Yours sincerely



Anne Kennedy and Katie Pearce
Co-Headteachers