



Dear Students, Parents and Carers

Newsletter (1) – 1st September 2020

I am writing as promised to give you more information about the formal start of term this Thursday (3rd September 2020). This updates the information that was sent out in July regarding coming back to school. Firstly, can I say how much I am looking forward to having all students back in school. The students will notice some real differences in order to make everyone feel safe. Settling back into school, getting into learning and getting used to these changes will be our first priorities for the new school year. Over the next days and weeks I will continue to keep families informed of key issues and will use these newsletters as the main way of doing this. The weekly briefing, with more non-Covid related news, will continue to come out every Friday and do sign up for this if you have not already done so. There is a link on our website home page to do this.

This first letter of the year explains some updates to where students will be learning next year, information about wearing masks and transport to school. The national developments to the pandemic have meant that schools are being asked to make further adaptations in order to reduce the chance of more local lockdowns and potential school closure.

Rooms for September:

We have slightly amended the rooming for September so that, for lessons where students do not need specialist facilities, they will have their lessons in one area of the school, which we are calling villages. This is an additional step to reduce movement around the school and to keep year groups separate. Therefore each year group will have an area of the school, or 'village', which is only for their year group. However, when they have lessons such as Drama, Art, Music, PE, D&T and Science, they will go to specialist areas for most of these lessons and then return to their village. They will have a designated toilet for each village and there will be some other shared toilets around the school in addition.

For students, this will not be a major change, as they will follow the same timetable as before. They will just visit fewer classrooms, which will reduce movement around the site for students. Students will have their tutor room in the village and not in their usual room. The revised tutor rooms for September are at the end of this letter and this is where students should go on Thursday morning, other than year 7 who will go to the hall. Staff will be available at the start of the day to guide students around the site safely.

Masks:

New guidance was issued to schools at the end of last week. Our decision is that we would like students and staff to wear masks in corridors when moving from their village to a specialist area. **Therefore, every student will need to bring a mask to school every day.** This should feel similar to the experience of going shopping, which people have all been getting used to over the summer. Students do not need to wear masks in classrooms and we would encourage them not to do this as they will be in their year group bubble. However, students can do this if they feel they would prefer.

As with wearing masks in shops and on buses, we hope that everyone will comply with this willingly, to help everyone to feel safe. If your child has a specific issue with mask wearing, please could you let your child's form tutor know as soon as possible.

Lunch provision:

Please note that the restaurant will only be serving a limited range of food for lunch: pasta with sauce, sandwiches, paninis, and pizza with some limited snacks and drinks. Water will be available.

Transport:

Oxfordshire County Council have informed us that they have written to every family of a child who uses a school bus to give them updated information about safe travel. This includes asking all students to wear masks on the buses unless there is a good reason not to.

Everyone playing their part:

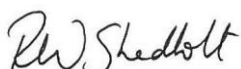
Whether it is on the buses, moving to specialist rooms or wearing masks, we need every student to play their part to make sure that everyone comes back to school safely. Many students live with family members who are more vulnerable and we all need to do what we can to keep them safe. Staff are now moving from room to room because they recognise that this is the right thing to help everyone. We need students now to come back to school following our three Wood Green rules: being ready to learn, being safe and being respectful. Our Behaviour System will continue to run to promote good behaviour. If we all follow our three key rules, we will have a very good start to the year. This is what I expect of every student.

We know that, for some students, starting school again will feel strange and I do urge that you contact your child's tutor if there is anything that you feel would be useful for us to know. We will of course do what we can to help every student; also every student making a real effort to settle back in will make our school feel at heart, despite the changes, like the real Wood Green School.

Welcome back video:

One of our year 13s, Elsie Wilks, has made a video for students to help them to get ready to come back. It is well worth seeing and a huge thank you to Elsie for making this. [Click here](#) to watch the video.

Yours sincerely



Mr R Shadbolt
Headteacher

Tutor rooms for September 2020: Room Number (Tutor Group)

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12 & Year 13
M2 (7HMS)	A6 (8SEH)	B12 (9MFP)	B21 (10DOR)	N9 (11DJW)	D1 (12LMD)
N2 (7NP)	A7 (8PDJ)	B14 (9ELB)	B22 (10CVG)	N10 (11HS)	D5 (12GJD)
N3 (7ER)	A14 (8SDA)	B15 (9NJJP)	B23 (10JPW)	N11 (TJW)	DR1 (12LCG)
N4 (7SJB)	A15 (8WJH)	B1 (9HRP)	B24 (10HLW)	N12 (11ECD)	S8 (12JFCW)
N5 (7LIR)	A16 (8DL)	B2 (9CC)	B25	N13 (11SCH)	S11 (12SRJ)
N6 (7JKC)	A17 (8AW)	B3 (9CMS)	B11 (10CLL)	N14 (11SRD)	S12 (13ASR)
N7 (7JMM)	A18 (8IGM)	T & L Room (9HLE)	B13 (10JS)	N15	SR (13SAE)
N8 (7SR)	A19 (8ZOD)				SCR (13 LB)
					A5 (13KS)