



Acting Head of School : Mrs F Cessford
Acting Executive Headteacher : Mrs F Craik

Dear parent/carer

As we come to the end of the most difficult academic year that you and your families have faced, I would like to once again thank you for your support as we continue to search for excellence in all aspects of school life.

Returning to school in September

On our return to school in September, we are required to conduct two lateral flow tests on students who have given consent. In order to do this we are operating a staggered return to school. **When students attend school for their tests they should be dressed in full school uniform.**

The sessions will operate as follows (please see table below)

All students will be back on site and in lessons by Monday 13th September.

Monday 6 th September	9-12	Year 7	Leave site after test 1
Test 1	12.30	Years 11 and 13	
Tuesday 7 th September	9-12	Year 8	Leave site after test 1
Test 1	12.30	Years 10 and 12	
Wednesday 8 th September	9-12	Years 9	Leave site after test 1
Test 1			
Thursday 9 th September	8.55	Year 7 Pupils stay after their tests	School begins for year 7,11 and 13
Test 2	12.30	Year 11 and 13 Pupils stay after their tests	

Friday 10 th September	8.55	Year 8 Pupils stay after their tests	School begins for year 8,10 and 12
Test 2	12.30	Years 10 and 12 Pupils stay after their tests	
Monday 13 th September	8.55	Year 9 Pupils stay after their tests	School begins for all students
All students back on site for 8.55am			

If your child is not taking part in the testing, please ensure they arrive on the correct day and time.

School uniform policy

The expectation is for all students to be dressed in full school uniform every day from September 2021 onwards. They will no longer have to wear to PE kit to travel to and from school, as the changing rooms will be operational. The P.E. uniform does not include any branded sportswear. There is a copy of our full uniform policy attached to this letter. The only change to the policy is all students with longer than shoulder length hair in years 7-9 will be required to tie their hair back. Gel nails, piercings and fake tan are not permitted in school. If your son/daughter wishes to have piercings please ensure these are carried out at the start of the holidays so they have healed in time for our September start. If students come into school with piercings these will be confiscated.

Staying hydrated

In September, we are encouraging the purchase and use of reusable water bottles to help our students to stay hydrated throughout the school day. This is one of our strategies to reduce the use of single use plastic.

Covid protocols

As the Government have relaxed the rules on wearing facemasks in enclosed places, we will no longer expect students to wear masks. Facemasks will become optional on site and on school buses. If there are any changes to this arrangement, we will communicate this with you.

School transport

Can we remind parent and carers to ensure that they have applied for a school bus pass where necessary using the link below.

<https://www.durham.gov.uk/concessionaryseats>

Holiday 2021-22

Please find enclosed a copy of our holiday schedule for the new academic year, this can also be found on our school website.

Finally, we wish you a restful and peaceful summer. We are anticipating a return to our normal way of working and look forward to you being an integral part of the community of St. Bede's in September.