



8th April 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Another busy term has flown past and the Easter break will allow us all to recharge our batteries ready for a positive and productive summer term.

Firstly today, an update on the **changes to guidance** relating to cases of Covid-19. Covid is now to be treated very much as any other respiratory illness (e.g. colds and flu) and there is no longer any requirement for lateral flow testing. If your child is clearly unwell, especially if they have a high temperature indicating an active infection, they should stay at home until they feel well enough to resume normal activities. If your child does take a test for any reason and receive a positive result, they should self-isolate for 3 days and can then return to school if they are well enough.

All absences will now be dealt with under normal DfE guidelines and, after the amount of time that pupils have missed over the last 2 years due to the pandemic, our expectations are high. Please contact our Attendance Team if you need any further advice or guidance.

Changes to the structure of breaks and lunchtimes after Easter

For the 2021/22 academic year we retained a structure with staggered breaks and lunchtimes; this proved wise given the prevalence of Covid-19 in October and again in January. To reduce the number of lessons interrupted by a break, we are now moving to the following structure after the holiday:

Period 2 will work as follows:

10:00 - 10:15 KS4 break	10:15 - 11:15 Period 2 for KS4
10:00 - 11:00 Period 2 for KS3	11:00 - 11:15 KS3 break

And Period 4 will follow the pattern shown below:

12:15 - 12:40 KS4 Lunch (25 mins)	12:40 - 1:40 Period 4 for KS4	
12:15 - 12:45 Period 4a for Year 7	12:45 - 1:10 Lunch for Yr 7 (25 mins)	1:10 - 1:40 Period 4b for Year 7
12:15 - 1:15 Period 4 for Years 8 and 9		1:15 - 1:40 Lunch for Yrs 8 and 9 (25 mins)

School Uniform Adjustments

After Easter, hoodies will no longer be allowed inside school on non-PE days.

We are aware that some of the PE tracksuit bottoms available from our uniform suppliers fit tightly around the ankle making them quite difficult to put on and take off. Kids Stop in Hyde are now stocking tracksuit bottoms with a zip at the ankle to address this and other suppliers will follow suit as they refresh supplies.

Face Masks in School

After Easter, we would expect that pupils will **not** wear face masks in school unless they have a medical/mental health reason for doing so. Should you wish your child to continue wearing a face mask, please contact their Head of Year to arrange a pass. We reserve the right to ask pupils wearing a face mask incorrectly (i.e. under their nose and/or mouth) to remove it.

Activities Days 2022

We are soon to launch our fabulous **Hyde Activities Days** for this year – these will take place at the end of June for Years 7 to 10. We will be offering a variety of trips, visits, workshops and activities over two days to enrich our curriculum and to widen pupils' experiences. Further information will be issued in due course and pupils will be able to select from a menu of visits. Please note that the very small number of pupils whose behaviour is not meeting our high expectations will not be able to participate in external visits but will work with staff on improving their conduct.

PE Activities during Ramadan

As usual, all pupils are expected to take part in PE lessons throughout Ramadan and our experienced PE staff will adapt the PE curriculum to take fasting into account. Our school policy relating to this can be found [here](#).

Year 7 Character Curriculum

As part of our Character Curriculum, each Year 7 form has created and raffled an Easter hamper – Alan Sugar's 'The Apprentice' has nothing on this cohort ... they have done a FANTASTIC job working together to make tempting hampers and then selling raffle tickets to anyone they could. In the process, they have raised lots of money for Willow Wood Hospice and should be **very** proud of themselves!

GCSE exams begin for Year 11 mid-May and they should all be spending a significant amount of time on high quality revision over the next couple of weeks to put themselves in the best possible position. They have access to a wealth of materials via their Google Classroom account and on GCSE pod which they can all log into online.

In the meantime, I wish all of our pupils and their families a lovely holiday and look forward to all that the summer term will bring.

Best wishes,



Andrea Radcliffe
Headteacher