



THE WHITSTABLE SCHOOL

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www.thewhitstableschool.org.uk | Headteacher: Mrs A M Gibson MA | @TheWhitSchool

1st April 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: End of Term 4 Arrangements and Information

I am pleased to tell you that pupils and staff have completed a successful few weeks following the full reopening of school. I have been really impressed with the resilience shown by our young people who are clearly delighted to be back together again and working really hard on their school work. I hope the weather holds out and we are all able to enjoy the Easter break in our gardens!

Term Dates

Pupils will be returning to school on **Monday 19th April**. Pupils should arrive at their usual year group entrances by 8.35am at the latest for an 8:40am start and pupil exits will continue to be staggered.

Collecting and Dropping Off Pupils

We have noticed an increase in cars parked dangerously or illegally in and around the school site. Whilst I appreciate there is a need for some parents to collect their children, we would ask you to respect our neighbours and the safety of our students, staff members and the general public. Just as a general reminder, when waiting please switch off your engines.

Please refrain from parking in the disabled bays in the visitor car park unless you hold a valid blue badge or your child has a temporary medical condition and parking there has been agreed with the school.

Summer Term Changes

We want to encourage pupils to spend as much time as possible in the fresh air during the summer term. Next term, all pupils in Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 will be expected to be outside at breaks and lunchtimes.

To support pupils in their studies, we will open the library for pupils in Year 7 and Year 8 from 3 - 4pm. Monday to Friday. There will be staff on hand to support with Google Classroom queries. Pupils will be socially distanced with year groups working on different sides of the library.

You may have noticed that fencing is being placed to create a secure recreation area for pupils to use at the front of the school. There will be gates allowing access to pupils and parents at the beginning and end of the school day. These will be locked during school hours.

Free School Meal Provision for the Easter Break

The Government has announced an extension of grant funding that can be used to provide free school meal vouchers to eligible families for the Easter holidays. Vouchers have been sent to eligible families. If you need help accessing the system please go to <https://help.schoolvouchers.com/hc/en-gb>

Choice Card Booklets

It is important that pupils bring their full equipment including their Choice Card booklet to school every day. All pupils were given a booklet at the start of the school year. If your child has lost their booklet over lockdown, for a limited time, they can purchase a new booklet direct from their Progress Leader for £1. (This is currently £2.50 if you purchase through Parent Pay).



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Year 9 Options

Over the coming weeks Year 9 pupils will be making decisions about their choice of subjects in Key Stage 4. An information booklet has been produced with information about the subjects available and can be found on our website [via this link](#).

The deadline for the Year 9 pupils to submit their option choice form is **Wednesday 28th April**.

Testing

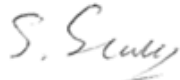
Your child will have been given a series of home testing kits. Testing over the course of the Easter break is strongly encouraged and all pupils will be given adequate testing kits in order to complete this.

Enjoy the break.

Yours faithfully



Mrs AM Gibson
Headteacher



Mr S Scales
Deputy Headteacher