



THE WHITSTABLE SCHOOL

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1st July 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to you regarding the end of term arrangements for this academic year. Obviously we have seen extraordinary circumstances in place since 23rd March 2020 and I would formally like to thank parents, pupils and staff alike for their forbearance in this most strange of circumstances.

From 23rd March we have remained open for children of key workers and pupils that may require additional support. From 15th June we have welcomed back year 10s and 12s. I cannot express how fantastic it is to see pupils back in the classrooms, interacting and engaging with the teachers that are leading these sessions.

I have been thoroughly impressed with the commitment, attitude and diligence displayed by all pupils that have returned to us so far, and how well they have adjusted to the new ways of working and safety arrangements. Pupils have displayed true resilience in these most difficult of circumstances.

End of term arrangements

Term 6 will officially finish at 3:00pm on Friday 17th July for all pupils, including children of key workers.

Results days

The school will be holding results days remotely on Thursday 13th August for Sixth Form for qualification results (not unit results) and Thursday 20th August for GCSE candidates. The Progress Leader, Mr McLeish and Head of 6th, Mrs Brown will write to students separately with the finer details.

Start of term arrangements

- Pupils will return in September on a staggered basis.
- Lessons will begin for Years 7, 11 and 13 on Thursday 3rd September at 8:40am.
- All new Year 7 pupils should report to The Stage at the beginning of the school day.
- Year 11 pupils should go to their mentor period 1.
- Sixth Form enrolment will also take place on Thursday 3rd September from 9:30am and a Year 12 Induction will take place on Friday 4th September.
- Lessons for **the remaining year groups (8, 9 and 10) will start on Monday 7th September at 8:40am.** Please remember that pupils need to be on-site by 8:35am.
- The first lessons for all pupils will be an extended mentor period within mentor groups.

Uniform

The school uniform policy states that blazers must be worn by the new Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 pupils. It is expected these are worn and not in bags. If a pupil wishes to remove their blazer they should seek the permission of the teacher. Shirts should be worn with the top button done up and tucked in at all times.



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For all pupils, the school skirt has to be the Charleston variety and knee-length, the alternative is a pair of black, tailored trousers only. Pupils are expected to wear the correct school uniform, further details of which can be found on the school website. Pupils should wear appropriate school uniform on their journeys both to and from school; PE kits are not permitted to be worn.

Handwriting pens

As part of our school approach to presentation, and to ensure that students' work is well presented and legible, all Year 7 and Year 8 students will be issued with a handwriting pen in the first week of term. Students will be expected to carry these pens as part of their compulsory equipment and should use them in all lessons where writing is required.

Bikes

If pupils are riding bikes to school they should ride sensibly and with the utmost caution. Anti-social behaviour on bikes including wheelies and weaving in and out of traffic will result in a ban for individuals on bringing bikes to school.

Mobile phones

Mobile phones continue to be banned on school site between the hours of 8:30 am and 3:00pm. Phones should not be seen or heard, if a phone is seen or heard it will be confiscated and a parent, carer or responsible adult will be asked to collect it.

Once again I thank you for all of your efforts, encouragement and support during this most difficult of times and we look forward to welcoming back all pupils in September, subject to government guidelines.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mrs AM Gibson', written in a cursive style.

Mrs AM Gibson
Headteacher