

Formby High School

'Determined to Achieve'



DMA/LFO

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Dear Parents

I hope that you have enjoyed a restful summer– it is hard to believe that the new school year is almost upon us. I sincerely hope that this year will see a gradual return to normal for everyone. As many of the Covid-19 restrictions have been eased since children were last in school, this letter aims to provide you with important need to know information in preparation for the start of the 2021-22 academic year.

Start of the New Year

A brief outline of the beginning of the new school year is set out below:

- **Wednesday 1 September** – INSET day (school closed to students)
- **Thursday 2 September** – induction for Year 7 (10:00am), Year 13 (11:15am), Year 8 (1:00pm) and Year 12 (1:30pm)
- **Friday 3 September** – normal timetable for all year groups; school will start for all years at 8:55am and finish at 3:10pm (Week 1 timetable)



All students should attend school wearing full school uniform. From Monday 6 September 2021, only Year 7 and 8 students should wear PE kits / blazers on days that they have PE lessons – all other students in Years 9 to 11 must wear full school uniform at all times and will use the changing rooms to change for practical PE lessons or sporting activities.



Covid-19 Testing – Return to School

As required by government guidance and as outlined in our letter to you dated 20 July 2021, all students will be asked to complete two LFD tests **in school** on their return in September. It is necessary for tests to be administered between three and five days apart – students will need to complete their first test at school **prior to returning** as outlined below. They should report to the Sports Hall where testing is taking place.



Tuesday 31 August

- 9:30am-10:30am Year 7
- 10:30am-11:30am Year 11
- 11:30am -12:30pm Year 12



Wednesday 1 September

- 9:30am-10:30am Year 10
- 10:30am-11:30am Year 13
- 11:30am-12:30pm Year 8
- 1:00pm-2:00pm Year 9





The second test will be administered during lesson time at school and students will then be required to continue twice-weekly testing at home with kits provided by school until the end of September when testing requirements will be reviewed by the government. Only students who have confirmed consent will be tested (parental consent for those under the age of 16 on 31 August 2021 and student consent for 16 and over). In order to reduce the risk of transmission in school and further disruption to educational provision, I would strongly encourage all students to participate in testing as outlined and I thank everyone in advance for their full support. **If you / your child has not completed the electronic consent form** provided in our letter of 20 July 2021 (sent by ParentMail for under 16s or Class Charts for students aged 16 or over), **please ensure you do so before Friday 27 August 2021.**

Any student who receives a positive test result via the in-school or home LFD tests will be asked to self-isolate and book a confirmatory PCR test. Siblings will not need to self-isolate (unless they have symptoms) but will be advised to seek a PCR test. Please see further information below.

Covid-19 Vaccinations

During the summer holidays the government has extended the Covid-19 vaccination programme to include 16 and 17 year olds which includes students in Years 12 and 13. Young people aged 16 and 17 can find their nearest walk-in vaccination centre on the [NHS website](#).

Covid-19 Arrangements for the 2021-22 School Year

You will recall from my letter of 13 July that our procedures have been reviewed in light of the changes set by the government in Step 4 of the roadmap and you will find a further copy of the summary of these changes in the table at the end of this letter. I would ask that you review this information with your child prior to the start of school so that he/she is fully aware of the changes in place.

Further information on our Coronavirus safety measures can also be found in the school's Covid-19 Risk Assessment available on the Well-being / Coronavirus page of the school website ([click here to access](#)). We are also required by the Department for Education to have in place a Contingency Plan in the event of a local outbreak which can also be found on the same web page. If there is a local spike in the infection rate or the emergence of a variant of concern, it may be necessary to implement some of the stringent contingency measures contained within the Contingency Plan.

One distinct change in safety measures is the change to self isolation requirements as outlined in government guidance which came into effect on 16 August. A copy of the government guidance can be found on the [gov.uk website](#) and I have summarised some key points below:

- **Symptoms** – anyone with symptoms (the most important of which are a new continuous cough, a high temperature, a loss of / change in normal sense of taste or smell) should stay at home and [arrange to have a test](#). There are several other symptoms linked with Covid-19 but these may also have another cause – if you are concerned or require further guidance about symptoms, seek medical advice. Even if you are vaccinated or have previously had a positive Covid-19 test result, you should follow this guidance as it is still possible to get Covid-19 and spread it to others.
- **Self-isolation** – anyone with Covid-19 [symptoms](#) or a positive test result should stay at home and self-isolate immediately.
- **Close contacts** – you are not required to self-isolate if you live in the same household as someone with Covid-19 or have been in close contact with a positive case if any of the following apply:
 - you are fully vaccinated (with an MHRA approved COVID-19 vaccine in the UK, and at least 14 days have passed since you received the recommended doses of that vaccine)
 - you are below the age of 18 years 6 months
 - you have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
 - you are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons



NHS Test and Trace will contact you to let you know that you have been identified as a contact and check whether you are legally required to self-isolate. If you are not legally required to self-isolate, you will be provided with advice on testing and given guidance on preventing the spread of Covid-19. Even if you do not have symptoms, [you will be advised to have a PCR test as soon as possible](#).

- **Remote Classroom** – students self-isolating following a positive Covid-19 test result or with symptoms pending a test result will be able to access learning resources from their class teacher via Class Charts.

Along with the above changes, we will continue to require stringent hand and respiratory hygiene in school with all students required to regularly wash / sanitise their hands throughout the school day. Whilst the use of face coverings is no longer required in the classroom, all students are welcome to continue to use one if they wish to do so.

Other Important Information

I would also like to use this opportunity to remind you of the school's expectations regarding new shoes. Students should have plain, sensible black leather (or leather effect) shoes. They should be polishable with a flat sole or minimal heel and no embellishment or logo. Canvas shoes and trainers are not acceptable. Further guidance can be found in the Key Information / School Uniform section of our website ([click here](#)).

Students should also ensure they have all the items included on the school [equipment list](#) in readiness for the new school year.

In my end of term letter I introduced you to 'never miss a beat', my mantra for the new school year. With so much time stolen from students' education during the last 18 months I am keen that every child makes the most of every opportunity that the new school year will bring. Wearing the correct uniform and being fully equipped for lessons will help enormously in terms of getting the new school year off to a brisk and business-like start.







I trust the information contained in this letter is helpful and I hope that you and your child(ren) enjoy what remains of the summer holiday. We are all very much looking forward to welcoming our students back to FHS next week.

Yours sincerely

Mr D A Mackenzie
Headteacher

2021-22 School Year – Organisational Arrangements

Below is a summary of the organisational arrangements that will come into effect on 1 September 2021.

<p>Timings of the School Day</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8.55 – 9.10: Tutor Period • 9.10 – 10.10: Period 1 • 10.15 – 11.15: Period 2 • 11.15 – 11.30: Morning Break • 11.30 – 12.30: Period 3 • 12.35 – 1.05: Period 4 / Years 9 and 10 Lunch • 1.05 – 1.35: Period 4 / Years 7 and 8 Lunch • 1.35 – 2.05: Period 4 / Years 11, 12 and 13 Lunch • 2.10 – 3.10: Period 5 (giving 12 minutes to walk to Formby station for southbound train and 15 minutes to walk to Freshfield Station for northbound train) 	
<p>Arrival and Departure</p>	<p>The school day will begin at 8.55am and will end at 3.10pm. Students will arrive / depart using the following gates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long Lane – Years 9 and 11 • Freshfield Road (South) – Years 10, 12 and 13 • Freshfield Road (North) – Years 7 and 8 	
<p>Tutor Period</p>	<p>Year groups will be zoned in the following areas for their morning tutor period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 7 – L Building • Year 8 – C Building (ground floor) and A Building • Year 9 – C Building • Year 10 – A Building and mobile classrooms • Year 11 – P Building • Year 12 – Sixth Form Centre • Year 13 – various locations 	
<p>Assemblies</p>	<p>Assemblies for Years 7 to 11 will take place in the School Hall during morning tutor period. Year group assemblies will take place on the following days:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday – Year 7 • Tuesday – Year 11 • Wednesday – Year 10 • Thursday – Year 9 • Friday – Year 8 <p>Years 12 and 13 will have their assemblies in The Studio between 8.55 and 9.10 on Thursday (Year 12) and Friday (Year 13).</p>	
<p>Morning Break</p>	<p>During morning break year groups will be zoned as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 7 – front field / School Hall (if wet) • Year 8 – The Square / Gym (if wet) • Year 9 – The Square / Sport Hall (if wet) • Year 10 – MUGA (right) / Dining Room (white) • Year 11 – MUGA (left) / Dining Room (green) • Years 12 and 13 – Sixth Form Centre 	
<p>Lunchtime</p>	<p>Lunch arrangements will remain as they are currently:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12.35 – 1.05: Years 9 and 10 • 1.05 – 1.35: Years 7 and 8 • 1.35 – 2.05: Years 11, 12 and 13 <p>On Friday of Week 2, Year 11 students will be dismissed at the end of Period 4 and will not stay in school for lunch.</p>	



<p>Toilets</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The toilet blocks in A Building will be designated as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Years 7, 8 and 9 boys Years 10 and 11 boys Years 7 to 11 girls Toilets in the Sixth Form Centre will be for Years 12 and 13 use only All other toilets around school will be for use by all year groups The single toilet located in the Sixth Form Centre will be designated a gender-neutral toilet, accessible to students across all year groups 	
<p>Lockers</p>	<p>Lockers will be available for all students to use in A Building, requiring a padlock that will need to be removed at the end of the school day.</p>	
<p>Uniform / PE Kit</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Years 7 and 8 – to wear PE kits / blazers on days that they have PE lessons Years 9, 10 and 11 – to wear uniform everyday and change into / out of PE kit during lesson using PE changing rooms 	
<p>Library</p>	<p>The Library will be open for students to use during lunchtime and after school each day. A rota will be drawn up by Mrs Ambrose, the school Librarian, in readiness for the new school year.</p>	
<p>Movement Around Buildings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Building – one-way system on the main corridor (east to west) and the boys' toilets corridor (south to north); external door by Finance Office is an exit point; students will queue for lessons in A10, A12 and A13 in the designated area of the Square and wait to be brought in by their teacher C Building – one-way system on the ground floor (entry by S Building, exit by A Building); up and down staircases to be used for 1st, 2nd and 3rd floors L Building – up and down staircases to be used for all floors P Building – external doors to be used to enter / exit P1, P4, P9, P10, P11; students to queue outside for P7 and P8 and await collection by teacher; external doors adjacent to Long Lane to be used as entry / exit for all other classrooms 	
<p>Classrooms</p>	<p>All lessons will be taught in subject specialist teaching rooms with students moving around the site between lessons.</p>	
<p>Fire Evacuation</p>	<p>In the event of a fire alarm, students from Years 7 to 12 will muster on the front field in the usual order (Year 7 by the bike sheds → Year 12 by the Sixth Form Centre). Year 13 students will muster on the lawn in front of A Building.</p>	
<p>Equipment</p>	<p>Students should ensure they have all equipment for their timetabled lessons each day. The equipment list is located on the school website and equipment will be available for students to purchase from the General Office.</p>	