

2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you have had a restful break and your families are safe and well.

Stopsley High School are looking forward to welcoming the 'Class of 2026' on the **7<sup>th</sup> of September** into our community and supporting them in their transition into secondary school.

We have already been introduced to so many of your children throughout our action packed transition programme, where we have been extremely impressed with both their Top Class attitude and conduct.

Please find below the details associated with your child's return:

### **School Day:**

The timetable below shows you how a Year 7 school day will be structured during the Autumn Term, your child's date of return is the **7<sup>th</sup> of September**.

| <b><u>Period:</u></b> | <b><u>Time:</u></b> | <b><u>Activity:</u></b>   | <b><u>Location:</u></b>  |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---|--|
| Arrival               | 8.20am - 8.30am     | Students make their way to their year groups holding area and will be led to their form room.       | <i>Year 7 students to enter the school site via the front gate</i> |
| Form time             | 8.40am - 9.00am     | Daily tutor time, where the register will be taken.   | Tutor room   |
| Period 1:             | 9.00 - 10.00am      | Lessons   | Tutor room   |
| Period 2:             | 10.00am - 10.55am   | Lessons   | Tutor room   |
| Lunch:                | 10.55 am - 11.20 am | Eat lunch.  | Dining room  |
| Period 3:             | 11.20am - 12.20pm   | Timetable dependant   | Tutor room   |
| Break:                | 12.20 pm - 1.10 pm  | You will have time to relax with peers and enjoy some of our outdoor space in your designated area. | Year group outdoor zone  |
| Period 4:             | 1.10pm - 2.10pm     | Lessons   | Tutor room   |
| Period 5:             | 2.10pm - 3.10pm     | Lessons   | Tutor room   |
| Departure             | 3.10pm              | Students will be dismissed  |  |

During their first day students will initially be based in their tutor room with their form tutor, in order to introduce them into their new school life slowly and ensure they have the correct information and tools to succeed. Students will benefit from a series of activities that will focus on:

- \*icebreaker/getting to know you activities
- \*establishing and maintaining student wellbeing
- \*Stopsley High School expectations and routines

Please reassure your child that they do not need to worry, if they are unsure about what to do or where to go there will be plenty of colleagues on hand to assist students as they arrive on the school premises through the front gate and throughout the school day.

Initially students will be predominantly based in their tutor groups getting to know their tutor and peers, during this time the school routines and expectations will be fully explained and any queries addressed.

Polite reminder: Year 7 students **should bring a packed lunch to school for the first fortnight**. If your child qualifies for a free school meal and you would like a packed lunch to be provided please notify the transition team using the following email address: [transition@stopsleyhighschool.co.uk](mailto:transition@stopsleyhighschool.co.uk)

On the days your child has a PE lesson they must come to school wearing their PE Kit, which they will remain in for the day. Year 7 students **will not** be participating in PE on their first day.

### **Coronavirus Testing:**

All students are strongly encouraged to complete 2 lateral flow tests upon their return to school. We have re-purposed the changing rooms and had them converted into testing bays, whilst colleagues have engaged with the necessary training and passed all required assessments in order to administer and process the tests accurately.

We are only offering these lateral flow tests for those without coronavirus symptoms. If you have been contacted by NHS Test and Trace to self isolate please do not enter the school site until this period has been completed. Full details of the changes that have been made to the expectations associated with contact tracing can be found [here](#).

Along with the other protective measures we are taking, these tests will help staff and students to remain in our schools safely. Up to one third of people who have coronavirus experience no symptoms and by testing we will help to stop the virus spread and help to keep our schools as safe as possible. I must emphasise that the testing programme is voluntary, but I would encourage everyone to participate.

Those taking the test will be supervised by trained school staff. The 'lateral flow' tests are quick and easy using a swab of the tonsils and nose. Results (which take around half an hour from testing) will be shared directly with staff and the parents of students participating.

The exact details regarding your child's year group being tested and in turn how this impacts on their educational package are detailed on the next page:

## **Year 7**

**Test 1 date:** Friday 3rd September 2021 - **by appointment slot *then return home***

**Test 2 date:** Tuesday 7th September 2021 - **students to arrive 8.20am - 8.30am**

### **Educational Package:**

| <b>Monday 6th September</b>   | <b>Tuesday 7th September</b>          | <b>Wednesday 8th September</b>        | <b>Thursday 9th September</b>         | <b>Friday 10th September</b>          |
|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Transition activities accessible from the website, details to follow. | Return to school - classroom learning | Return to school - classroom learning | Return to school - classroom learning | Return to school - classroom learning |

### **Remote Learning:**

On Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September and Monday 6th September, the English and Maths departments will be setting a challenge for your child to complete at home. This content can be accessed via our website, we will also be sending a direct link via text tomorrow.

### **Student Wellbeing:**

We are carefully planning students' transition back after the Summer break to enable them to be able to share how they are feeling so we can support them to make the process as smooth as possible. It would greatly assist us in our planning if you could encourage your child to complete this [well being survey](#) prior to their return.

### **Uniform Expectations:**

Introducing the Top Class Student initiative has been highly successful, and has led to a strong upward trend in student achievements, which is impacting positively on our standards.

As we start the new academic year it is important that all students continue to strive to maintain these high standards in all aspects of their learning and conduct.

Please support us in the drive to raising standards, by ensuring your child is ready to start the new term with the correct uniform and equipment detailed below. Should you require any assistance with meeting these expectations, please do not hesitate to contact a representative from your child's year team.

Students must wear:

- a Stopsley High School branded jumper or cardigan, a white shirt, and a school tie
- either black tailored trousers (not cords, jeans, leggings, skinny fit or fashion trousers)
- or black tailored skirt (not lycra or tight, and no splits, and knee length)
- appropriate black school footwear (no coloured stitching, logos or soles)
- for PE lessons Stopsley High School polo top, sports jacket and plain black shorts (no logos) or training pants(no logos).

In addition:

- no jewellery is to be worn apart from one small, plain stud in each ear lobe and a watch
- hair must be of a natural colour with no lines or patterns shaved in, or extreme styles
- no eyebrow patterns/shavings are permitted
- any hair bands should be plain black or navy only (no patterns, bright colours, bows or polka dots)
- makeup including false lashes are not permitted
- acrylic nails and nail varnish are not permitted

The branded items of the uniform can be purchased online from <http://www.prestigedesignwww.co.uk/live/> .

### **Student Contract:**

This is our home/school contract [SHS Home School Contract](#) . This must be read and signed by student, parent and form tutor to ensure everyone is aware of the school systems to follow to ensure the Stopsley community can run efficiently and support the home/school partnership. On Monday you will receive via text a bespoke link to an electronic form. Please complete the form before your child comes to school on Tuesday to confirm that you and your child have read and understood the contents of the contract.

The Year 7 pastoral team and I look forward to welcoming your child to Stopsley; should you have any queries in the meantime please do not hesitate to contact the transition team using the following email address: [transition@stopsleyhighschool.co.uk](mailto:transition@stopsleyhighschool.co.uk)

Yours sincerely,



Mrs P. Whiting  
Deputy Headteacher