

Carleton High School
Green Lane
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West Yorkshire
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6 September 2021

Re: Start of Term - Welcome Back

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope everyone has enjoyed a fantastic summer break and that students are now feeling ready to return to the excitement of a new academic year. We are looking forward to welcoming everyone back to school on **Wednesday**, **8 September** and resuming many aspects of school life that we have missed in their normal form for some time, including assemblies, co- curricular activities, trips and performances.

The Start of Term

Government Guidance and Risk Assessment	 Our risk assessment is based on the national government guidance which can be found via the following link: Schools COVID-19 operational guidance - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) We have a robust risk assessment in place which has been validated by an external health and safety consultant. This will be published on our website in due course.
Arriving at school each day	 The school gate will continue to be open from 8.25am every day. Students can arrive at school anytime from 8:25am until the scheduled start time of 8.55am. All students should enter the school via the student entrance gate. Upon entering the school, students should go to their designated waiting area (outlined below) so they are ready for their year group line up at 8.55am. Year 7: Quiet Area (staff will greet students at the student entrance and show year 7 students where to go). Year 8 Tennis Courts. Year 9: Area outside Design and Technology. Year 10: Area outside Science. Year 11: Area outside Annex.
Leaving the school each day	 The school day ends at 3.05pm for all students. All students should exit the school via the student entrance.
Uniform	 Please remember that we return to school with a full and normal uniform. PE kits will no longer be worn to school on PE days. Students should come to school in regular school uniform and will get changed during the day, as before.
Face coverings	 Face coverings are no longer advised in classrooms or communal settings. All students should continue to wear face coverings on school buses unless they are exempt.





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Home Testing	 Home testing will resume for students (and staff) in September who wish to participate. We are informed that, at this stage, we can expect home testing to continue twice weekly throughout September.
Symptomatic students and those who test positive for Covid-19	 Students who have one of the three main Covid-19 symptoms (persistent cough, high temperature, loss of taste/smell) must isolate at home and get a PCR test immediately. If the PCR test is negative, the student can stop self-isolating and return to school. If the PCR test is positive, they must follow the NHS guidance to self-isolate. The result of the test should be shared with the school.
Self-isolation and close contacts	 Families will be aware that the guidance on self-isolation is now very different for close contacts compared to last year: Contact tracing will now be completed by NHS Test and Trace rather than the school. Fully vaccinated adults and students are not required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with Covid-19, or are a close contact of someone with Covid-19. Any students identified as a close contact by NHS Test and Trace will NOT isolate and will continue to attend school as long as they have no symptoms. Instead of isolating, students will be encouraged to take a PCR test. They will not need to self-isolate while waiting for the result (as long as they have no symptoms).
Other Measures	 We shall maintain the following procedures to reduce the risk of infection for the foreseeable future: We shall maintain an enhanced programme of cleaning for frequently touched points. Requirement for all students to sanitise their hands as they enter a classroom or dining space. Ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting 'catch it, bin it, kill it'. We shall seek to maintain good ventilation throughout the building.

Finally

I am looking forward to further restoring our exceptional normality and to another successful year ahead.

Yours faithfully

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Mrs J Cross Headteacher

