

17th July 2020

Our Ref: CP.SL.0015

Your Ref:

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Re: Year 7 First Day

Thank you for your support and patience whilst we have been working to plan your child's transition to us and their future learning through this global pandemic. We are very pleased to have all our students back in school in September and are delighted to be finally able to meet our new Year 7 students.

In this letter, we have outlined the structure of the day that will ensure that we all stay safe. In order to maintain social distancing and to prevent any spread of Covid-19, the school day will start and end at different times for each year group. They will have to enter and exit the academy at a designated entrance. Students will be expected to maintain social distancing whilst in school. Students will only be allowed into school at their timetabled time. If you have siblings in more than one year group each should still only attend at the time allocated to them.

Students are expected to wear usual uniform to school, as detailed in the Parent Information Booklet we have sent out to you. You can also find this on our website. On the days that they have PE or Dance, they should wear their PE kit all day as they will not be able to change in school. In order to make sure that students are warm, they are should wear their black tracksuit bottoms or black sports leggings. They are able to wear a plain black sports jumper or a plain black jumper on days in which they have PE. Hoodies are not permitted. The usual rules about hair colours, cuts (no patterns), shoes, make up false eyelashes, nail extensions, nail colour and jewellery will be in place and sanctions applied from the first day of term.

Year 7 students will join us on **Thursday 3rd September, at 8.30am**. They will enter through the main gate. They will follow the path on the left-hand side of the main building to the smaller new building where Year 7 will be based. We have included a video of this route on our website for them to become familiar with this. They will enter this building through the main doors and sign in here. They will then be shown to the room where they will be based and meet their tutor. Their first day will consist of some 'Getting to know you' activities with their group, an assembly to meet the Senior and Year Group Teams and a tour of the Academy while we have fewer students attending. **They will finish school at 3.00pm.**

You will find enclosed a formal invite to join your new tutor group, this will show you the name of your new group and teacher – Have a look for them in our ‘Meet Your Staff!’ videos on our Transition website! You could keep this in your pocket on your first day to help you remember your group.

For the foreseeable future, Year 7 will be based on the lower floor of the New Build. They will be taught in tutor groups in one classroom throughout the day. They will be taught by specialist teachers who will come to the students’ classroom. Students will spend break and lunch time in the bistro. Each year group will have their own designated toilet blocks. They will not interact with other year groups.

The timing of the school day for Year 7 is as follows:

| Year 7 | | |
|-----------------|-------|---|
| Arrival | 8.30 | Please use the Main Gate only |
| Tutor | 8.40 | In your classroom |
| Lesson 1 | 9.10 | In your classroom |
| Break | 10.10 | In the Bistro, or playground and field at the back of the new build |
| Lesson 2 | 10.30 | In your classroom |
| Lesson 3 | 11.30 | In your classroom |
| Lunch | 12.30 | In the Bistro, or playground and field at the back of the new build |
| Lesson 4 | 1.00 | In your classroom |
| Lesson 5 | 2.00 | In your classroom |
| Depart | 3.00 | Please use the Main Gate only |

Students are arriving at different times, so please ask your child not to wait outside the school to meet their friends.

The only lunches that will be available at this time will be grab bags. The canteen will be closed at break time. We do not accept cash at school anymore. This means that you must have money in your account for food and drink. You can do this through setting up a School Gateway account online. You can access this in the Parent and Carer section of the Year 6 Transition page on our website. Students will not be able to bring cash into school to top up their account. We will be unable to provide enrichment activities after school at the start of term.

Students will be instructed to follow all hygiene measures that are designed to prevent the spread of Covid-19. They will be asked to hand sanitise at the entrance to the building and each time they enter or exit a classroom. They will be reminded to wash their hands for at least 20 seconds when visiting the toilet. We have employed additional cleaners to clean all contact points and common areas. We have staggered break and lunch times to allow half an hour between each year group bubble in order to clean all areas thoroughly. Tissues will be available in all rooms.

Students should travel to school by foot or cycle if possible. If you are driving them to school please drop your children in the turning circle at the front of school. Please avoid public transport if possible. Students



travelling by public transport will need to wear a mask for the duration of their journey. Students will need to dispose of their mask safely in the bins provided before coming into school, or keep them safely in a plastic bag within their bag. In line with latest guidance, masks are not to be worn outside and then worn into school.

All students will be asked on entry if they have any symptoms of Covid -19. These are a new cough, a raised temperature and a loss of smell and taste. Students will not be allowed on site with any of these symptoms. If your child develops symptoms at school they will be isolated and you will be asked to collect them straight away. The first aider will be wearing full PPE. Your child will receive a letter outlining the need to get a test. Your household will have to self-isolate whilst waiting for the results of the test. If the test is positive your household will need to self-isolate for 14 days. If the test is negative your child can return to school and you can stop self-isolating.

If a student or member of staff in a year group bubble test positive for Covid-19, the bubble will be sent home to self-isolate for 14 days.

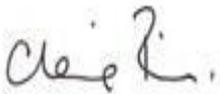
We will keep all of our school systems under review in order to keep your child safe. We will only relax these measures when it is safe to do so.

Starting at secondary school is never a time without some worry or anxiety, and Covid-19 has certainly not made this process any easier. We are very excited to be welcoming you to our Academy and we will do our very best to make sure we can still make this a smooth and comfortable transition for all of our new students.

If you have any questions or queries, please email y6transition@rsaacademy.org, and you can find all of the information mentioned in this letter on our website www.rsaacademy.org/y6transition. You can also follow our accounts on Twitter and Instagram by searching for @rsay6transition.

We can't wait to see you in September.

Best wishes,



Claire Price
Principal

