



3rd September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Welcome back to School

It has been a familiar and really positive experience to see the new Year 7 students join us at school today for their first day at Warlingham and personally, it was a real pleasure to be able to welcome them in person and share my excitement at what the next 7 years at Warlingham has in store for them individually and collectively.

Whilst students were and will be naturally both excited and nervous in equal measure upon returning to school we have had a really successful first day and are really looking forward to welcoming students in Years 11, 12 and 13 alongside the new Year 7's tomorrow and the students in Years 8, 9 and 10 on Monday. Our school values requiring Commitment, Courage and Kindness will be even more important than ever as students return to school after a long period away from school and having been managing the impact of COVID 19 on our lives.

During this week we have worked together as staff to train for the logistical arrangements to enable us to meet the DFE published controls and health and safety requirements as well enhancing our ability to set lesson by lesson daily work in line with the normal school timetable in the event of further school closure or partial closures requiring a return to remote learning. Finally, we have also been planning and training to deliver the pastoral support of students that will be so important in light of the far from normal circumstances in which we return to school.

Some final important reminders:

- Students and all members of the school community should still look to socially distance wherever and whenever they can.
- Hand washing and sanitising regularly remains one of the best means of controlling the virus alongside catch it, bin it, kill it with the use of tissues.
- We have staggered arrival times and given different entry points to minimise any mingling between year group bubbles. Please do not drop off or send students into school to arrive more than 5 minutes before their start time in support of this.
- Students need to wear full school uniform and bring all their own equipment in their school bag (the equipment list can be found on page 14 of the school handbook on the school website in the Info/policies and school handbook section).
- For information about PE arrangements there will be an accompanying letter from Mr Ward that will be sent on Friday.
- Please be aware that over the summer holiday various building works have taken place on site to improve the learning environment for our students. To assist us with safeguarding and security, automated gates have been fitted at all entrances to ensure the site is secure during the day and access is better managed.
- **Important requirement relating to drop off and collection of students:** Please note that the school gates will not be open for parent/carer drop off or collection unless your child has a recognised medical need agreed with the school. Parents/carers driving students to school must not drive onto the school site and

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A School within the Tandridge Learning Trust

should arrange to drop off or collect from agreed safe point in the local area within walking distance of the school.

- We recognise that some students may find the wearing of masks in communal areas and corridors around school helps reduce their anxiety about the return to school and we are happy to allow them to do so if they wish. If your child wishes to use a mask we would urge you to instruct them on correct use and safe storage of the mask during the day and the video at this [link](#) that we will be showing to all students upon their return to school might be helpful.

If worn, face coverings should be:

- plain in appearance, no logos or motifs
- stored in a plastic bag (which can be closed) in a child's pocket or school bag
- washed/replaced regularly (it is recommended that this is daily, in hot soapy water)
- used appropriately

The government published updated guidance on the 1st September 2020 for parents regarding returning to school which can be found via the following link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-in-the-autumn-term>

KEY TO OUR SAFETY CONTROLS

FOR STUDENTS: Please do not arrive at school more than 5 minutes before your start time

FOR PARENTS: There will be no vehicular access to the school site for the drop off or collection of students

Initial start time and day:

Friday 4th September – 8.35am Students starting in Year 12

Friday 4th September – 9am Students in Year 11

Friday 4th September – 10am Students returning in Year 13

Monday 7th September – 8.35am Students in Year 8

Monday 7th September – 9am Students in Year 9 and Year 10

Please see the reopening section of the website and parent and carer guide for further details.

Thank you for your ongoing support, we look forward to a really positive start to the new school year.

Yours sincerely



Mr Paul Foster
Headteacher