

23<sup>rd</sup> March 2021

Dear Parents and Students,

The return to school has gone very well and I would like to thank students for their positive and enthusiastic approach. I would also like to thank parents/carers for supporting their children during the recent lockdown with their academic studies while often balancing work commitments.

We have been considering our plans for the summer term carefully and I wanted to inform you of the arrangements we are putting in place starting Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April.

**Tutorial Times:**

Following discussions with the pastoral teams, we intend to maintain the current tutorial arrangements but change the time year groups start.

Therefore, after Easter:

- Year 9 will start at 8.40am;
- Year 10 will start at 8.45am;
- Year 11 will start at 8.50am;
- Sixth Form will remain after school. (Year 13: Wednesday and Thursday 2.45pm-3.05pm. Year 12: Thursday 2.45pm-3.15pm).

Entry and Exit Gates and Year Group bubbles will remain the same.

**The Timetable:**

We will move to **one-hour lessons** and change the timings and length of break times to the following:

Tutorial	See times above.	
Period 1	9.00am – 10.00am	
Period 2	10.00am – 11.00am	
Break	11.00am – 11.15am	Break now <u>15 minutes</u> not 20 minutes.
Period 3	11.15am – 12.15pm	
Break	12.15pm – 12.45pm	Break now after Period 3 and <u>30 minutes</u> not 20 minutes.
Period 4	12.45pm – 1.45pm	
Period 5	1.45pm – 2.45pm	

As you are aware, it has always been our intention to increase lesson time as it is deemed safe to do so, and these changes are moving closer to what was the pre pandemic timetable.

We also felt that with the move to one-hour lessons, students and staff would benefit from a longer break, however, we had to balance this with students having to remain in their bubbles and remain on site during these breaks. It is during breaks when social distancing and face-covering wearing is harder to maintain. Students have, however, been very responsible in wearing face coverings and we appreciate your support with this.

Regarding face coverings, no further guidance has yet been released by the Department for Education (DfE) about their use after the Easter Break. Once we receive this guidance, I will contact you again with further details.

### **Subject Knowledge and Skill Enhancement Sessions:**

We want to continue to offer additional curriculum support to our students, therefore we will be running 'Subject Knowledge and Skill Enhancement Sessions' for specific year groups after school in the summer term:

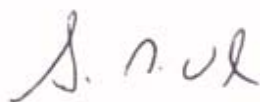
Our Catch-Up sessions for Year 11 and Year 13 will end at Easter.

In the first half of the summer term, our additional sessions will consist of Subject Knowledge and Skill Enhancement Sessions for the exam year groups of Year 10 and Year 12 which will run on Tuesday Period 5, and Wednesday and Thursday after school.

In the second half of the summer term (after May half term), we will run enhancement sessions for our Year 9 students. This is timed so that students receive extra subject time and support directly before starting their GCSE courses.

I wish you a happy and restful Easter break and would like to thank you for your continued support. I will provide more information as we receive it.

Yours faithfully



STEVE WILSON  
Headteacher