

# St Crispin's School

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St. Crispin's  
Excellence for all



August 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

I trust that families have had a good summer rest. Although I wrote to you at the end of term sharing this information I thought it helpful to write again regarding the arrangements for the start of term which will soon be upon us all.

## Covid 19

As you will be very aware of in the press, the advice and guidance to schools in the management of Covid 19 has been much changed for the start of the new school year.

From September students are no longer required to wear masks nor be kept separate in bubbles and therefore students will be able to enjoy whole school breaks and a longer lunchtime together. For our older students this means a return to the start of the common school day at **8.30am**. Lesson 6 is reserved for some A-level lessons and extracurricular activities.

School Day		
8.30am	- 8.40am	Registration with Tutors
8.40am	- 8.50am	Assembly/Character Education
8.50am	- 9.50am	Lesson 1
		5 min movement time
9.55am	- 10.55am	Lesson 2
10.55am	- 11.15am	Break (20 mins)
11.15am	- 12.15pm	Lesson 3
12.15pm	- 12.45pm	Lunch (30 mins)
12.45pm	- 1.45pm	Lesson 4
		5 min movement time
1.50pm	- 2.50pm	Lesson 5
3.00pm		Lesson 6 & Extra Curr. begins

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In September we very much look forward to relaunching our full suite of extracurricular opportunities and this includes the return to school trips albeit contained initially to day visits. All students in Years 7 – 11 are warmly encouraged to use the library from 3pm to read or complete independent study. We are relaunching our full suite of residential educational and international visits from the summer term and beyond.

The DfE, recognising that we cannot entirely predict the future, asks Headteachers to design an “outbreak management plan”. At St Crispin’s this would mean a time limited resumption of the current bubble school days including staggered arrival, departure, separated entry/exit, breaks and lunchtimes. If this were to be required I would of course write to you to remind you of these exact timings and/or remote learning arrangements. This could also include the temporary resumption of wearing masks in communal areas or classrooms or both. Whilst I hope we will never again enact an outbreak management plan the pragmatist in me knows it is entirely possible.

Our Covid secure basics remain as they ever were. The simple rules are:

## Covid Secure Simple Rules

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-  **Never come into school if you are ill with Covid 19 symptoms**
  
-  **Wash your hands regularly**
  
-  **Use a tissue to catch sneeze or cough and bin it**



Probably the most important of these simple rules is that all members of the school community, pupils, staff and other adults should follow public health advice on when to self-isolate and especially that no one should not come into school if they have symptoms, have had a positive test result or other reasons requiring them to stay at home due to the risk of them passing on COVID-19 (for example, they are required to quarantine).

Alongside these Covid secure arrangements we will be keeping classrooms and communal areas cleaned as and well ventilated by keeping windows and doors ajar whilst balancing the comfort of students during inclement weather. No longer are schools required to be involved in the exacting task of close contact tracing which will instead be delivered via NHS Track and Trace.

### **Lateral Flow return to school testing arrangement**

Critically all members of the school community are strongly encouraged to continue to regularly lateral flow test. We plan to begin the new academic year with holding in-school mass asymptomatic testing. This testing regime will begin days before the formal start of term to ensure that students may return safely to school and to help the significant logistics in managing over 1200 tests. There is therefore a very small staggered start to the new school year.

As previously we require your permission [here](#) to conduct and process the tests on site. Unless you have completed the consent form, we will not be able to carry out the test. I also share a privacy notice [here](#) which explains how your child's data would be used and shared. No testing is compulsory but for obvious reasons is warmly encouraged.

For their first test, students will need to attend the school site with the sole purpose of taking the test. This should take no longer than 15- 20 minutes in total with the test itself taking approx. 5 minutes. All tests will take place in the school gym and students are not, for this first test, required to wear school uniform. We will of course give special support and guidance for our new Year 7s who will be unfamiliar with the testing regime.

On these testing days there will be clear signage at the front of school and members of staff on hand to support and direct students directly to the school gym. The gym is set up with lots of testing tables and there will be a simple one way system to manage the flow in and out of the space. Testing will be overseen by a combination of paid staff and volunteers. Parents/Carers will be informed of your child's test as previously via text/email via the NHS system. NHS replies may take up to 24 hours. The school will contact those who show a positive result immediately.



Year Group	1 <sup>st</sup> Test Day/Date	Time	Venue
Sixth Form	Wed 1.9.21 Alphabetical order A-G Alphabetical order H-N Alphabetical order O-Z	1pm 1.20pm 1.40pm	School gym
Year 11	Wed 1.9.21 X side Y side	1.30pm 1.45pm	School gym
Year 10	Wed 1.9.21 X side Y side	2.30pm 2.45pm	School gym
Year 9	Fri 3.9.21 X side Y side	1pm 1.15pm	School gym
Year 8	Fri 3.9.21 X side Y side	1.30pm 1.45pm	School gym
Year 7	Thurs 2.9.21 Alphabetical order A-G Alphabetical order H-N Alphabetical order O-Z	2.30pm 2.50pm 3.10pm	School gym
Year Group	2 <sup>nd</sup> Test Day/Date	Time	Venue
Sixth Form	Mon 6.9.21	3pm	School gym
Year 11	Mon 6.9.21	3pm (TBC)	School gym
Year 10	Mon 6.9.21	1.50pm (P5)	School gym
Year 9	Tues 7.9.21	9.55am (P2)	School gym
Year 8	Weds 8.9.21	1.50pm (P5)	School gym
Year 7	Tues 7.9.21	1.50pm (P5)	School gym

As with all lateral flow tests that so many of us have become so familiar, the test itself is simple and involves taking a swab. Up to one third of people who have, coronavirus are asymptomatic. By testing, we will help to reduce the spread in school settings through asymptomatic transmission. The subsequent Lateral Flow test on site will take place over a 3 -5 day spacing. Thereafter students will be encouraged to conduct twice-weekly testing at home. My strong hope is that this Lateral Flow return to school testing regime will allow us to take a strong step to help everyone remain safe and preserve as long as we might an uninterrupted the start of the school year.

### Start of term arrangements

**New students in Year 7 and Year 12** will join us on **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September**.

Our youngest new students as you may know have not yet even been able to physically visit the school and so they will have a special "Great St Crispin's Drop off event" with their parents/carers between **8.45am and 9.15am** where they will get to meet their tutors and have a special welcome into their very first day of secondary school.

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Year 12 will have their own special welcome albeit they do not require (nor probably want) to be “dropped off” in quite the same way as our Year 7s! **Year 12 should arrive at 9.30am** and go directly to the Sixth Form Atrium.

**All other students** return to school on **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September** – see arrangements for this day below.

Year Group	Arrive at	On arrival to go to...	Headteacher Assembly
7	8.30am	Form Room	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> 9.15am
12	8.30am	Form Room	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> 9.45am
13	8.30am	Assembly – Sixth Form Atrium, then to Form Rooms	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> 8.30am – Head of Sixth Form
11	8.30am	Form Room	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> 8.40am
10	8.30am	Form Room	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> 9.20am
9	8.30am	Form Room	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> 9.00am
8	8.30am	Form Room	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> 8.40am

## Preparing for the new academic year

### Uniform

The school, managed magnificently by the PTA, holds a good level of stock of nearly new and good quality uniform, if you have any challenges with uniform do let us know we want to and will help. Our uniform guidance that can be found [here](#) on the school website.

I hope you don't mind me emphasising two areas that seem to regularly bring some challenge. Firstly shoes should be entirely black and leather (this can include footwear that has the styling of trainers for comfort but still do need to be fully black and leather – whether real or faux!) We also continue our ongoing efforts to challenge the perennial issue of skirt length. So perennial is the issue I can only imagine that if there were schools in cavemen/women times that the sabre tooth tiger fur skirts would not have come near to touching the top of the knee! Girls may of course wear trousers and many do. Skirts if



worn should be tailored and not a jersey material, tube type which tends to be very easily (too easily) “rolled” at the waist!

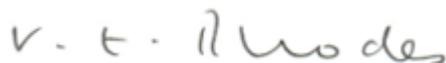
### **Punctuality**

The last two academic years have meant different arrival times for groups of students to the school. From September we return to the arrangement where the start of the school day is a clearly defined **8.30am**. A purposeful school day requires good habits in terms of punctuality. I rather suspect the last period has eroded some of our normally strong standards of timeliness and therefore in September, Tutors and Heads of Year will be holding students to strong account and rewarding their punctual arrival to school.

### **Finally**

I very much look forward to welcoming all students back for the new academic year, the new academic year promises much and I fully intend to deliver it!

Yours faithfully,



Ms Rhodes

Headteacher