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21st July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

RE: Start of Term Information

We are writing to provide some key information about the start of the term and the academic year ahead. We are hoping that the plan below will not change depending on government announcement. If it does we will write to you again.

You may have heard that the Department for Education has stated that all secondary school students should take 2 on-site lateral flow device tests, 3 to 5 days apart, on their return in the autumn term. In order to accommodate this, we will be starting with some year groups before the start of term and staggering the return of students during the first week as per the guidance.

Testing is not mandatory but strongly advised. **If you are happy for your daughter to be tested on the first day please fill in the consent form below by Monday 23rd August 12 pm.**

- <https://fbaok.co.uk/consent-students/>

If you consent for your daughter to be tested she will need to attend school on Wednesday 1st September for a lateral flow test and a tour of the school if she wishes. The tours will be lead by Year 13 students. Please see the times your daughter would need to come to school for her test. The letter corresponds to her form group.

F - 13:00	B – 13:20	E – 13:40	L – 14:00
O – 14:20	R – 14:40	S – 15:00	W – 15:20

- Students will line up outside
- Students do not need to wear uniform
- Students will register in the Main Hall
- Once students have conducted their test they will go home or wait for a school tour
- The results will be sent via text and email

If students test negative, they can return to school on Thursday 2nd September

Please note if we do not have a consent form we cannot test your daughter.

The team who is conducting the testing has been trained and has had a lot of experience this year in testing students but also in making them feel comfortable.

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Joint Headteachers: Mr David Turrell & Miss Emilie Darabasz



LIFE Education Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales no. 08102628 at the address above.

Positive Test Result: If a staff member or student has a positive result from a lateral flow test (LFD) they should:

- Self-isolate in line with the stay at home guidance.
- Get a free PCR test to check if they have COVID19.
- Whilst awaiting the PCR result, the individual should continue to self-isolate.

If the PCR test is taken within 2 days of the positive lateral flow test, and is negative, it overrides the self-test LFD test and the student/ staff member can return to school, as long as the individual doesn't have COVID-19 symptoms.

Students should continue to test twice weekly at home until the end of September, when this will be reviewed. Staff will also undertake twice weekly home tests whenever they are on site until the end of September, when this will also be reviewed.

If you do not consent for your daughter to be tested then your daughter will start at 8.30 am on Thursday 2nd September 2021

Thursday 2nd September: Your Daughter will be in Year 7. All Year 7 start their first day in school.
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We will be welcoming your daughter at the front of the school on Thursday 2nd September at 8.30 prompt. She will finish on that day at 2.55 pm. **There is no need to bring her PE kit on the first day.**

Covid Update

The Department for Education released their updated guidance for school operations last week. As we move into Step 4 of the roadmap, this marks a new phase in the government's response to the pandemic, moving away from stringent restrictions on everyone's day-to-day lives, towards advising people on how to protect themselves and others, alongside targeted interventions to reduce risk.

From September, we will be able to start to move back to what is more normal in terms of school organisation and activities:

- **No more bubbles** - students will be timetabled in different rooms around the school
- Return of **break time**
- **Contact tracing** – if a student tests positive for Covid 19, it will no longer be the responsibility of schools to contact trace and isolate. The NHS Test and Trace will work with the positive case to identify close contacts. Contacts from a school setting will only be traced by NHS Test and Trace where the positive case specifically identifies the individual as being a close contact.
- **Face coverings** – the Government guidance outlines that face coverings will no longer be advised for students, staff or visitors either in classrooms or in communal areas

The school will write an updated outbreak management plan which covers the possibility that in the event of an outbreak locally it may become necessary to reintroduce 'bubbles' for a temporary period. In addition, Public Health might advise the school that face coverings should temporarily be worn in communal areas or classrooms.

School Day

The Year 7 school day for the next academic year is:

Period 1	Timings
1	8:35 – 9:35
2	9:35 – 10:35
Break	10:35 – 10:50
Movement time	10:50 – 10:55
3	10:55 – 11:55
Lunch	11:55 – 12:30
Form time	12:30 – 13:00
4	13:00 – 14:00
5	14:00 – 14.55

Life in Year 7

In Year 7, your daughter will be starting her first Key Stage 3 year.

Teaching groups

To begin with the students will be taught in mixed ability classes for all their lessons (apart from those in 7F5).

Once the students have completed their CATs tests early in the new term we will be able to set the students as outlined below.

The students will be taught in different groups:

- Common Sets for English, Maths, Science, French or Spanish
- Mixed ability groups for all other subjects.

The students are split into two equal sides of the year group and the sets are organised as follows:

7F	7B
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7F1 = Top Set • 7F2 and 7F3 = Broadly mixed ability sets • 7F4 = Intervention group with reduced language • 7F5 = Support group with no language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7B1= Top set • 7B2, 7B3 and 7B4 = Broadly mixed ability sets

Student Support

In Year 7, Mrs Worth & Wood will be the Joint Progress Managers. They will work alongside the tutor team and classroom teachers to provide academic and pastoral support to your daughter so that she can maximise her potential and fully benefit from her time at the school.

There will be a new Administrative Support Officer attached to your daughter's year group. We will be sharing with you her name and contact details very soon. She will be your first point of communication with all issues related to your child and this will ensure that key information is relayed to the correct member of staff.

Year Group	Progress Manager	ASO
7	Mrs Worth & Mrs Wood	TBC if you need to contact us during the summer please use info@fbaok.co.uk

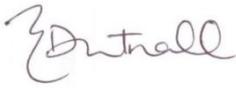
Keeping your brain sharp

We have all experienced the feeling of coming back to school after a summer holiday and finding writing difficult again for the first day or two. We would encourage your daughter to keep mentally and intellectually stimulated during the holidays. Here are a few suggestions that your daughter could get involved in:

- Read at least 3 books
- Avoid using a calculator at all. Do some mental maths each week.
- Make the most of the free opportunities in London such as visiting at least one of the following: Natural History Museum, Science Museum, V&A Museum, Tate Modern or Tate Britain
- Be creative and make something
- Do some research into the option subjects you are considering choosing
- Learn 50 new English or French or Spanish words ready to use when you return to school

Over the summer we are looking forward to the completion of a number of projects on the school site to improve the facilities and teaching spaces for the students. For example, we are investing in a new till system which will speed up service and allow students to pre-order food – more information about this to follow.

This continues to be a wonderful school which it is a privilege to lead and serve. We are very excited to meet you all finally in September and we wish you a very happy summer.



Mr Julian Dutnall
Executive Headteacher



Ms Emilie Darabasz
Joint Head of School



Mr David Turrell
Joint Head of School