

18th June 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

We have now run through the two week timetable with students once again moving around and staff welcoming students into their own classrooms. Year 7 have adopted to moving around school for the first time brilliantly and it has been fabulous to see everyone back in their specialist rooms.

Co-Curriculum

We have been delighted with the engagement in co-curriculum and clubs, with just under 400 KS3 students taking part on Wednesday and Thursday after school. Students can select from clubs such as drama, games, cooking, film and various sports clubs. Year 9 can also opt for the Duke of Edinburgh Award. If your child has not yet signed up, there is still time; please contact your child's Head of Year. In addition, a number of Year 7 students have been involved in a joint project with the Baltic Art Gallery to develop 5 pieces of artwork that will be on permanent display over the student reception area. We are looking forward to seeing the end result and the big unveil!

Teacher Assessment Grades

We have finally submitted the GCSE and A'level grades today, which is a great relief to everyone involved. I would like to thank all parents and carers for the support you have given staff and students throughout this process. Please remember results days are 10th August for A'level and 12th August for GCSE.

Attendance

We are continuing to improve whole school attendance. To support this, we are running an attendance competition in the final term where students attending every day from lunch will be entered into a competition to win a tablet. Please encourage your child to attend everyday unless they are genuinely ill or self-isolating.

Covid 19

As we are all aware cases of Covid-19 have been rising. We are very aware of the situation and are very carefully monitoring this in school. To support please continue to test regularly and follow all Covid-19 guidance. If you have any concerns about anything related to Covid-19, please contact school reception or review the Covid-19 section on the website.

Today we had a confirmed case of Covid-19 within our Student Community. We have identified close contacts and those students are now isolating as per Government Guidance.

Education Secretary Gavin Williamson has written today to secondary schools to ask that we share the letter linked <u>here</u> with parents and carers, about the importance of regular testing.

Year 7 Consultation Evening

We will be holding the Year 7 Consultation Evening virtually on the 29th June. Mr Hope will be in contact shortly to arrange appointments.

Year 6 Transition

Unfortunately, due to Covid-19 restrictions, Headteachers in Gateshead have decided that for most pupils moving up into secondary this year, the process will be virtual. We will be releasing lots of resources on our transition days which this year will be the 5th and 6th July.

If you have any concern about transition please contact Mrs Mitchell. Mrs Mitchell will be visiting all primary partner schools to meet our new students.

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As always, thank you for your support and if you are a football supporter, enjoy the match this evening and good luck!

Yours sincerely

Mrs Allie Denholm Headteacher

