

4<sup>th</sup> September 2020



Dear Parent/Carer

It gives me great pleasure in writing to you to introduce myself as the new Head of Year 8 for this academic year. My name is Mr Cleary and I am really looking forward to supporting the new Year 8 cohort. I have had the pleasure of teaching many of the students in this year group over the last school year, and I am extremely committed and determined to continue to support and guide your child in my new role. I was able to meet some of you in July at the tutor meeting day and look forward to meeting as many of you as possible in the future when it is safe to do so.

In July, Mr Forder wrote to all parents with the details of our reopening arrangements for the return of students. I encourage you to re-read this information with your child. You can find this letter using the following link:

<https://bit.ly/2Ck4ejf>

I am writing to you with some Year 8 specific information, which I hope will be useful in preparing for your child's return on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September.

### Arrival and Departure

Year 8 return on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September at 08:30. To support our safe arrangements, it is important that all students enter the Academy between the times of 08:30 and 08:45 and as close to 08:30 as possible. Students arriving before this time will be safely supervised outside the Academy gates.

Following Mr Forder's letter in July, we have made some adjustments to the student timetable. **Please note that the end time for Year 8 is 2.30pm.**

The Government continues to advise that students should try to avoid public transport especially at peak times and, where possible, travel to and from the Academy by walking or cycling.

There are two ways for students to enter the Academy site. For those walking or cycling to school, or travelling by bus, students should enter through the side entrance opening onto the 5 acres field, close to Romsey Road, where they will be greeted by a member of staff.

For those being dropped off by car, please note that the main Academy car park will not be accessible for parents. If you are dropping your child off, please do so by using the public car park next to the Academy entrance on Redbridge Lane. Your child will then enter the Academy using the walkway from this car park.

**Principal - Rob Forder**

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## **Use of Face Coverings by Students**

At Lord's Hill, staff and student safety is our number one priority. The best available scientific evidence is that, when used correctly, wearing a face covering reduces the spread of coronavirus, helping to protect others. Therefore, the wearing of face coverings by students is compulsory at important times in specified areas of the Academy. This approach has been developed in close collaboration with other secondary schools within Southampton.

Upon arriving for their first day back at school, Oasis will provide every child with a reusable face covering for their personal use. This face covering will be provided free of charge and is only for use in school.

Students should apply face coverings when they arrive at school. Personal face coverings worn by students for use on their journey to school should be thrown in the bin upon entry (if disposable) or placed in a plastic bag (if reusable) for the duration of the Academy day. We will provide storage bags for this purpose.

Students should wear face coverings at the following times.

- Whilst moving around the Academy in all corridor and indoor communal areas.
- Whilst seated or standing in indoor communal areas, when not eating.
- When requesting support from a member of staff which requires close proximity (within 2 metres).
- Whenever they are asked to do by a member of staff for the safety of themselves and others.

Students should not wear face coverings at other times. Please be assured that students will only need to wear face coverings over their faces for a few minutes each day.

As part of welcoming your child back to the Academy and inducting them to our new routines and safety measures, they will receive full training and instructions on the use of face coverings.

## **Attendance and Uniform**

As you are aware your child's attendance to school is extremely important for both their academic progress and their mental health and wellbeing. At Lord's Hill we expect all students to attend the Academy every single day. Our Student Entitlement Team along with our Attendance Officer will ensure you are kept up to date with your child's attendance information throughout the academic year.

Students must wear full uniform when attending the Academy apart from the days they have PE when they should attend school in their PE kit. The PE day for Year 8 is dependent on your child's tutor group:

8KMC	Friday
8RFR	Monday and Wednesday
8CPE	Wednesday and Thursday
8ATA	Wednesday and Friday
8XBE	Wednesday and Thursday
8ATO	Thursday and Friday

## **Equipment and Lockers**

To support hygiene and to ensure every student is well equipped for learning, I am pleased to say that we will be providing all the necessary equipment that students will require. With the exception of a scientific calculator for those that own them, there is no need for students to bring a pencil case or other equipment to school.

To support our safe arrangements, I regret that lockers will not be available for the foreseeable future. Any child who has left belongings in their locker during Academy closure will have opportunity to collect these belongings during their first two weeks at the Academy. We will provide your child with the exact date and time to do this imminently.

## **Completion and Submission of Summer Work**

We know a lot of our students would have completed high levels of summer holiday work and we are very much looking forward receiving this. Therefore, please do remind your child to bring their completed summer home learning packs with them on the first day back at the Academy and hand directly into their tutor.

## **Return of Laptop Devices**

If your child has been issued with an Academy laptop to support their home learning we will soon start to communicate with those students and families the logistics of the safe return of IT equipment. We would like to thank you in advance for your support with this and equally the safe care you have assured during the lockdown period.

I hope you find these updates helpful. If you have any questions, please do contact me by email – [tom.cleary@oasislordshill.org](mailto:tom.cleary@oasislordshill.org) . A member of staff will respond to your query within two working days.

I am greatly looking forward to the return of students in September, and excited about the year ahead. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely

Mr T Cleary  
Head of Year 8