

26 August 2020



Letter to All Year 8 Parents

Dear Parent/Guardian

Re Return to School

We are looking forward to reopening our school and welcoming all pupils and staff back in September 2020. However, as you will be aware from the changes we have all seen in our daily lives, Deer Park will be a little different too! We are, therefore, asking everyone to cooperate and help us establish, follow and embed the new routines required to keep everyone safe.

All pupils in Year 8 will return to school on Friday 4 September 2020. They should attend in correct school uniform and ensure they are fully equipped for school as it will not be possible for them to share or borrow pens or pencils from their peers. This week government have restated their expectation that all pupils will return to school and that this is explicit in their guidance to schools: 'school attendance will be mandatory again from the beginning of the autumn term'.

The Friends of Deer Park will be holding a second hand uniform sale at the school on Tuesday 1 September from 6.00pm – 6.30pm for Year 8 parents and pupils. Please park at the front of the school outside Reception to access the sale.

In line with the guidance we have received, we have worked hard to ensure our pupils can continue with their learning and 'receive high quality education that enables them to thrive and progress'.

Each year group 'bubble' has been allocated an area of the school and, with the exception of any lessons that require specialist classrooms, they will be taught in this area by their different subject teachers who will come to them. This will reduce movement around the school and minimise the number of contacts. **Year 8's home base will be T1-8 (previously known as Monkscroft**, which has been recommissioned as a suite of classrooms and equipped accordingly) and each tutor group has been allocated a room for tutor time which will take place at the end of the day:

Tutor Group	8DE	8DO	8DU	8FR	8JE	8LI	8NI	8TU
Room	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5	T6	T7	T8
Tutor	Miss Bluett	Mr David	Mr Lawless	Mr Ellen	Mrs Stockwell	Mrs Evans	Miss Dearing	Mr Hoare

Pupils are expected to arrive promptly and ideally not more than 15 minutes before their school day starts. Parents can drop pupils off at the rear of the school as normal. However, all pupils, including those who arrive on foot, by bike or by bus, should make their way to their home bases following external routes and without entering or crossing other year group 'bubbles'. Pupils arriving by bus are expected to follow the procedures set out by Gloucestershire County Council and for public transport: <https://www.deerparkschool.net/news/?pid=3&nid=1&storyid=896> . We appreciate pupils travelling by bus may arrive a little earlier than their peers.

The school day for pupils in Year 8 will begin directly with Lesson 1 at 9:00am where the daily register will be taken. There will be 5 lessons a day. These are of varied length to help us accommodate staggered breaks and lunch times which will be shorter in length than they used to be. However, we have also temporarily allowed 5 minutes movement time between lessons where appropriate.

9:00am-10:00am	10:00am-10:20am	10:20am-11:20am	11:25am-12:25pm	12:25pm-1:00pm	1:00pm-2:00pm	2:05pm-3:05pm	3:10pm-3:25pm
Lesson 1	Break	Lesson 2	Lesson 3	Lunch	Lesson 4	Lesson 5	Tutor Time

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This is an interim timetable for the period from September to December 2020 and we will keep our provision under review so that we can respond to any developments accordingly. Pupils in Year 8 will have lunch in the main hall and access to the hard play area at the back of the gym.

All pupils will be expected to abide by our school standards and observe the protective measures we have put in place including good respiratory and hand hygiene, appropriate social distancing and staying within their year group 'bubble' and designated areas.

All pupils should:

- Wash their hands thoroughly on arrival and at intervals during the school day (we have invested in external hand washing stations for this purpose);
- Use hand sanitiser on entry to their classrooms;
- Wipe down any equipment and the area in which they have worked using the wipes provided;
- Comply with instructions, such as seating plans, and ensure they face the front at all times;
- Maintain appropriate social distancing between themselves (1m) outside the classroom and with all adults in the school (2m);
- Follow the clearly marked routes and designated one-way systems around the school;
- Report any potential COVID-19 related symptoms immediately.

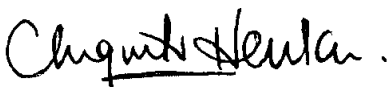
We will be going over these changes and resetting our expectations for the term ahead with all pupils in Year 8 on Friday 4 September 2020 during Lessons 1 and 2. Pupils will be able to access their timetables in Show My Homework from Friday 28 August 2020 but please be aware that these are still subject to change and checking and a final version will be issued to pupils on Friday 4 September.

For more detail about the reopening of schools nationally and the expectations on parents regarding attendance, testing and track and trace we recommend you read the latest guidance for schools: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>

Owing to the protective measures we have put in place, parents are discouraged from coming into school unless they have an appointment and advised to make contact via telephone or email with the appropriate members of staff.

Thank you for your cooperation and support in these challenging times. Please check the news items on our website regularly at www.deerparkschool.net for any latest information and updates.

Yours sincerely



Chiquita Henson
Headteacher