



1536



1701

THE COOPERS' COMPANY AND COBORN SCHOOL

Love as Brethren

Headteacher: Ms Sue Hay, BA(Hons), PGDip, NPQH

St Mary's Lane, Upminster, Essex RM14 3HS

| Tel: 01708 250500 | Email: info@cooperscoborn.org.uk | Website: www.cooperscoborn.org.uk |

22nd July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that this letter finds you well, and that you are looking forward to the summer break. I wanted to take this opportunity to write to you and explain some of the arrangements for your child joining us in September.

We are very hopeful that September will see a return to normality in terms of education. The information below explains how we hope the school will operate in the new academic year. However, we must all be aware that these plans may change, depending on government advice and the progress of pandemic over the summer period.

Students will not be organised in year group 'bubbles' and lessons will not be taught in specific year group zones. The school day will operate to the timings below:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

8.35am	Morning registration
9.00am	Lesson 1
10.00am	Lesson 2
11.00am	Break
11.15am	Lesson 3
12.15pm	Lesson 4
1.15pm	Lunch
2.15pm	Lesson 5
3.15pm	End of the school day

Wednesday

The day will follow the same pattern as above, with the addition of a Lesson 6, which will run from 3.15pm to 4.15pm.

The first few days in September will be slightly different. We will be operating a staggered start to the school year to enable us to set up and run an in-school asymptomatic testing site. We will be asking students to take two lateral flow device (LFD) tests in the first week of the new academic year, so that we can quickly identify any asymptomatic cases. Details regarding both consent for these LFD tests to take place in school, and the testing schedule are below. I do encourage as many parents and carers as possible to give their consent for these tests, as identifying asymptomatic cases will help to protect the whole school community.

Consent

In order for the school to commence testing of our students we will need a consent form completed. The consent form is for participation in tests designed to detect asymptomatic coronavirus cases.



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Consent relates to the following groups of students:

For pupils and students younger than 16 years - this form must be completed by the parent or legal guardian. Please complete one consent form for each child you wish to participate in testing.

As I am sure you can appreciate the logistics for completing the tests in school so that we can get all year groups back to the classroom as quickly as possible are going to be very demanding and we would be very grateful if you could complete the consent form as soon as possible and by no later than Friday 27th August 2021. Please follow the link below to the consent form.

[Year 7 September 2021 Consent Form](#)

You will see from the information below that we will also be running a series of tests called CATs tests (cognitive ability tests). These tests will be used by the school, in the absence of Year 6 SATs, as a baseline assessment. The CAT tests are designed to test Verbal, Quantitative and Nonverbal reasoning as well as Spatial Ability. The tests have been constructed so that students should not be able to prepare for them and the results will not be used to inform any setting or streaming moving forward.

The start of the new school year for your child will be as follows:

Thursday 2nd September	<p>Students will attend school briefly to complete their first lateral flow device test. Students will not be required to wear school uniform. Please ensure your child arrives at the time allocated below, they will be met by a member of staff who will accompany them to their test and they will be returned to the car park after. Unfortunately, we will not be able to permit parents on site for testing.</p> <p>Timings for LFD Testing:</p> <p>7.1 08:30 7.2 08:45 7.3 09:00 7.4 09:15 7.5 09:30 7.6 09:45 7.7 10:00 7.8 10:15</p>
Friday 3rd September	<p>Official Induction Day for all Year 7 students – further information to follow. Full school uniform from this day onwards.</p>



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Monday 6th September	<p>Students in form groups 7.1, 7.2, 7.3 and 7.4 will attend school at 8:35am and will complete their CATs Tests.</p> <p>Students in from groups 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, and 7.8 will attend school at approximately 10:15am for their second lateral flow device test (times will be communicated).</p> <p>All students will complete normal lessons Periods 3, 4 and 5 finishing at 3:15pm.</p>
Tuesday 7th September	<p>Students in from groups 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, and 7.8 will attend school at 8:35am and will complete their CATs Tests.</p> <p>Students in from groups 7.1, 7.2, 7.3 and 7.4 will attend school at approximately 10:15am for their second lateral flow device test (times will be communicated).</p> <p>All students will complete normal lessons Periods 3, 4 and 5 finishing at 3:15pm.</p>
Wednesday 8th September	Normal school day, start 8:35am, finish 4:15pm
Thursday 9th September	Normal school day, start 8:35am, finish 3:15pm
Friday 10th September	Normal school day, start 8:35am, finish 3:15pm

During the autumn term, all secondary school students will be encouraged to take LFD tests twice a week, at home. In order to prepare for this, I would like to encourage you, over the summer period, to support your children in starting to complete two LFD tests per week. These can be obtained free of charge from your local pharmacy. Completing these tests is an important part of making sure that the progress of the virus can be tracked and also that we reduce the transmission across the whole of society. Schools are not responsible for 'track and trace' of positive Covid cases, so any positive LFD test should be logged with the NHS, you should isolate, and a confirmatory PCR test should be taken within two days of the positive LFD test. If you would like further information, the NHS has a wealth of information on their website:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

It is also recommended that any student who is attending our summer school in August should complete two LFD tests during the week.



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I would like to remind you that, if you are travelling abroad this summer, you should check the latest foreign travel advice. It is particularly important that you are aware of the quarantine rules and also that you avoid travel to countries which are on the 'red list'. Helpful government advice can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-abroad-from-england-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

If you have any questions regarding any of the above information then please do not hesitate to email year6transition@cooperscoborn.co.uk

All that remains is for me to wish you all a safe, happy and healthy summer break and I look forward to welcoming your child in September.

Yours sincerely

Ms S Hay
Headteacher