

12th July 2021

Dear parents, carers, and guardians

With the end of this academic year in sight, and after all the disruption that we have had to live with, I'm sure that all students are ready for the summer break and hopefully an opportunity to socialize with friends and family. As a school, we would like to thank all families for their support with the challenges presented by lockdowns, distance learning, and the ongoing social distancing measures required of us all.

Thanks to the support from all our families, and the sensible approach taken by all our staff and students, we almost made it through 16 months of Covid lockdowns and restrictions without the need to send any students home to self-isolate. Only having to send one year group home once, is an incredible achievement!

As we look forward to the start of the next academic year, we are still waiting to hear details regarding the social distancing measures that will need to be in place, however, we are hopeful that we will be allowed to return to some form of normality, without the need for bubbles and face coverings. Having to organize the school differently over the last year and a half has however resulted in some positive changes. These include the one-way system on the corridors at lesson changeovers and the use of split breaks and lunches. We will be keeping these changes from September, albeit with two break and lunch times rather than the three we currently have. In an effort to share as much information as possible, on the next page there is an FAQ section based on our current arrangements for September.

We are also mindful that because of the restrictions on visitors to the school, we have not been able to host our usual transition events for Year 6 students joining us from September. As you can imagine, it can be a daunting experience starting a new school, especially when mixing with all the older year groups and trying to navigate around a new environment. For this reason, there will be a staggered start to students returning in September as outlined in the FAQ attached.

Once again, thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Until September, have a wonderful, safe and relaxing break.

Yours sincerely



John Weir
Head Teacher

FAQ: Arrangements for September 2021/22

Question 1: What are the start of term arrangements for students?

There will be a staggered start to students returning in September as shown below:

Wednesday 1st September: Staff training day (no students in school)

Thursday 2nd September: Year 7 and 11 only

Friday 3rd September: All students return to school

Students in Years 8, 9 and 10 will be able to access online work via Google Classrooms while at home on the Thursday using the class codes below. If help is needed accessing their Google accounts they can email onlinelearning@yt.flintshire.sch.uk for support.

Year Group	Google Class Code
8	rwud7oj
9	l6vjq23
10	zvqfnni

Question 2: Will bubbles and face coverings still be used in September?

We are hopeful that the bubbles and face coverings will not be required in September. Students who choose to continue wearing face coverings on corridors will be allowed to do so.

However, Track and Trace will still contact the school for information on close contacts should a student test positive. This may result in some students being sent home to self-isolate, but that will be for Track and Trace to decide after they have spoken with the school.

Question 3: Will there still be split breaks and lunches?

Yes. However, the groups and times will change as shown:

		Years 7/8	Years 9/10/11
Form	08.45 - 09.15	Form	Form
Lesson 1	09.15 - 10.15	Lesson 1: 09.15 - 10.15	Lesson 1: 09.15 - 10.15
Lesson 2	10.15 - 11.35	Break: 10.15 - 10.35	Lesson 2: 10.15 - 11.15
		Lesson 2: 10.35 - 11.35	Break: 11.15 - 11.35
Lesson 3	11.35 - 12.35	Lesson 3: 11.35 - 12.35	Lesson 3: 11.35 - 12.35
Lesson 4	12.35 - 14.10	Lunch: 12.35 - 13.10	Lesson 4: 12.35 - 13.35
		Lesson 4: 13.10 - 14.10	Lunch: 13.35 - 14.10
Lesson 5	14.10 - 15.10	Lesson 5	Lesson 5

Question 4: Where should I enter the school in the morning?

Years 7/8/9 will enter through the student entrance from 8.40am and wait in the atrium area until form time. Years 10/11 will enter through the sports centre entrance and wait in the sports hall until form time.

Question 5: Can I wear PE kit to school on days when I have PE?

Yes. On days where students have PE they should arrive to school wearing their kit. Students must wear the PE kit specified in the school uniform code ([see attached](#)).

Will LFT testing still be happening?

Students and staff are being advised to test before returning to school in September.

Welsh Government are not issuing Operational Guidance to schools until September, so we will contact you if there any changes to the information in this update.