

4th December 2020

Dear Parents & Carers,

I am writing with several updates and key messages and information about:

- **ROAD SAFETY & TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT**
- **PUNCTUALITY & NEW GATES**
- **2021 EXAMINATIONS**
- **EXTRACURRICULAR PE**
- **COVID UPDATE**
- **NON UNIFORM DAY & END OF TERM ARRANGEMENTS**

ROAD SAFETY & TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

With traffic likely to get busier as we come out of lockdown and the weather worsening, may I reiterate important messages about road safety and traffic management.

Dropping and collecting students at a convenient point en route to school rather than driving into the car park would be very much appreciated. However, **please keep the highway and pavements clear and do not drop off and pick up on or opposite the school entrance and yellow zig zags nearby**. This causes safety problems for other road users who need to veer into the middle of the road and obstructions for pedestrians, especially those in wheelchairs, with baby buggies or the visually impaired. Motorists please be 'aware of the 2 way cycle lane which crosses in front of the school entrance and look both ways. Please do not stop in the cycle lane to the left of our entrance. We would advise that stopping in these areas may constitute a road traffic offence of obstruction under rule 243 of the highway code

We have a 'left turn only' policy for vehicles when exiting the car park onto Alcester Road from 8.30 - 9am and 3 - 3.30pm in order to speed up the traffic flow. Vehicles trying to turn right out of the school or parking opposite the school cause significant delay to other parents, prevent buses exiting the site, and create obstruction on the highway which increases the risk to our students.

Following a number of near misses near the entrance to the School we have reminded **all students they MUST walk their bikes on and off site. Bicycles should have front and rear lights fitted.** Please ensure your child respects this for their own safety. If we feel any students behaviour continues to pose a danger to themselves or other users on site we may withdraw their permission to bring it to school.

If everyone follows the guidance above we can make this work for everyone. Please support us to do this and follow the advice of our staff on duty in the high-vis vests who are there to help.

Stratford upon Avon School

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Mr N Wallace – Headteacher

Stratford upon Avon School, a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales under number 07690776, whose registered office is Stratford upon Avon School, Alcester Road, Stratford upon Avon, Warwickshire, CV37 9DH

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PUNCTUALITY & NEW GATES

May I remind you that **students are expected to be on site by 8.45am every morning** enabling them to be seated ready for lessons to commence at 8.50am. We have recently had **new gates** erected between the Main Building and Sports Hall and these **will be closed at 8.45am from Monday**. Students arriving after that time will have to report to the late door and a 10 minute afterschool detention will be issued.

2021 EXAMINATIONS

I am sure you will have seen the headlines this week as the government finally made an announcement regarding examinations next summer. In essence, on top of the three-week delay in exams previously announced, the government announced that it will:

- allow more generous grading – which will be “in line with national outcomes from 2020, so students this year are not disadvantaged”
- give students advance notice of some topics covered in GCSE and A-levels to focus revision (no further details yet of which topics, or in which exams)
- allow exam aids, such as formula sheets, in “some exams” to give students “more confidence and reducing the amount of information they need to memorise”
- hold additional exams as a second chance for students to sit a paper if they miss the main exam because of illness or self-isolation
- form a new expert group to look at the issue of fairness i.e. “differential learning and monitor the variation in the impact of the pandemic on students across the country”
- ensure students taking vocational and technical qualifications will see “some adaptations to ensure parity”

We will be explaining the implications of this to Year 11 and 13 students next week and await further details from the government in the New Year. In the meantime, Year 11 and 13 students should already be busy revising for their PPEs which take place in January.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR PE

It has been lovely seeing so many students attending extra-curricular PE clubs this week. These will continue to run for specific year group bubbles on particular days, with a range of sports available:

- clubs will run from 3:15pm to 4:30pm
- attendees will be required to wear full PE kit on that day.
- students do not need to book in prior to attending the club,
- they will need to come to the sports hall and sign in/register with the lead teacher for the activity,
- the clubs are free of charge for any SuAS student

Monday Year 7	Tuesday Year 9	Wednesday Year 7	Thursday Year 10	Friday Year 8
Netball – Courts	Netball – Courts	Cricket Sports Hall	Netball – Courts	Netball – Courts
Football - Astroturf	Football - Astroturf		Football - Astroturf	Football - Astroturf
Badminton – Sports Hall	Badminton – Sports Hall		Badminton – Sports Hall	Badminton – Sports Hall
Hockey - Astroturf	Trampolining – Sports Hall		Hockey - Astroturf	Trampolining – Sports Hall

COVID UPDATE

I am pleased to report that we have had **another quiet week regarding Covid at school**. Currently we have no students who have tested positive. There are 17 students who are self-isolating due to potential contact with a case of coronavirus (COVID-19) from outside our educational setting. Please continue to adhere to precautionary measures so that we do not have to ask any students to self-isolate in the last few weeks of term or into the Christmas holiday.

In addition to the previously publicised symptoms of Covid (**cough / high temperature / loss of taste and smell**) children and younger adults with Covid are **suffering sore throats, muscle aches and severe fatigue**. If your child has any of these, please keep them at home until you are sure they do not have Covid. We appreciate that school attendance will be lower for individuals and the school as a whole but the safety of the school community is everyone's priority at the moment. Please see the flowchart at the end of this letter.

Please can I remind you to provide washable face coverings for your child. This will help reduce health risks associated with used disposable facemasks being discarded and minimise the environmental impact.

Don't forget that **in the event that someone in your family has a covid-like symptoms or a positive Covid-19 test, please notify us immediately via Covid19@stratfordschool.co.uk** for advice and **as a precaution keep your child off school whilst we check if they can return**. For queries regarding absence matters please call Mrs Wilkinson, our Attendance Officer, on 01789 416621.

NON UNIFORM DAY & END OF TERM ARRANGEMENTS

The last day of term will be a non-uniform day raising money for the Teenage Cancer Trust in memory of Dr Wood, our Deputy Headteacher who died in May. £1 donations will be collected on entry to the building.

We will be closing early on Friday 18th December. All students will have 4 full lessons on those days, finishing at 1.30pm. Lunch service will still be available on those days after lessons have finished at 1.30pm. However, school buses will remain at their normal time; please let us know if you are unable to make alternative arrangements.

Finally, thank you for your ongoing support and understanding. It has been lovely reading such positive feedback from parental emails and other sources. As ever, please follow us on twitter [@StraUponAvonSch](https://twitter.com/StraUponAvonSch) or check the school website www.stratforduponavonschool.com for regular updates.

Yours faithfully



Neil Wallace

Headteacher

COVID SYMPTOMS AT HOME FLOW CHART

