

Dear Parent/Carer

This academic year began with a staggered start, students engaged in online learning whilst others came in for precautionary covid testing. We managed despite huge staff and student absence to remain open to all year groups throughout the year, many thanks to you all for the support around the covid restrictions. We did not foresee us having to resort to two days of online learning at the end of the year in order to maintain a safe environment during extreme temperatures, pandemic and heatwave planning do not feature in any teacher training programme. Once again the school has continued to run smoothly, and your children have been cooperative and considerate as always.

Despite the difficulties it has been a positive year and the most 'normal' year we have had for some time. We have sent home 450,959 positive notifications, that is an average of 262 per student. Much to everyone's delight extracurricular activities and trips have resumed. PE as always take the lead in extracurricular with more than 400 students taking part in some type of sport after school. Performing Arts worked hard to put on a school show with a real live audience in the school hall and there was trip after trip. From the residentials like Bushcraft and Skiing to day trips to see the Lion King and everything in between.

I am always particularly pleased when staff say they have been stopped by members of the public who just want to say how polite and well behaved our students are.

Looking forward there are some key dates to be aware of:

Thursday 21st July 2022

Is the end of term. We will continue our regular timetable until 3.10pm and buses will operate as normal.

18th August 2022 - A Level Results

25th August 2022 - GCSE Results

Results will be issued online to all students from 8.00am via their Bromcom Student Portal account. There will be no provision to collect results in person, please do not come to the school on the results days.

It is important students are familiar with their Bromcom Student Portal account log in details so that they can access their results. This is the same account where Summer 2022 exam timetable information was published. Please ensure that any log in issues are resolved prior to the end of the summer term as it will not be possible to respond quickly to log in queries on results days. If assistance is required, please contact helpdesk@stratfordschool.co.uk.

Tuesday 6th September 2022

This is the start of the new academic year. We will welcome all students back into school on that day. Students should be in school by 8.45am and in their tutor groups by 8.50am. Planners and timetables will be distributed from here.

This academic year we have at times relaxed the uniform expectations first of all to cope with the very cold temperatures in school (due to increased ventilation as a result of Covid) more recently as a result of the very hot temperatures . There is no need to maintain this in September and therefore we will return with full school uniform expectations. This means no hoodies, and no non uniform PE

items. Students should continue to wear PE kit on the days they have PE / dance / extra curricular PE but not at other times. School uniform can be expensive, it can be incredibly frustrating as a parent for your child to then not wear it and tell you that it is OK for them to wear an alternative. That is not the case, the school uniform items that you buy need to be worn. If you are in any doubt about the uniform please have a look at the website.

Every year seems to be 'unique and challenging' these days! This one has been no exception. I would like to thank you for your continued support and understanding. We are lucky to be blessed with a wonderful mixture of talented staff, engaged parents and lovely students. I hope you and your families have a relaxing and happy holiday. We look forward to seeing you all in September.

Yours sincerely

Karen Berwick
Deputy Headteacher