



July 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to you with less than a fortnight of the current academic year remaining, in advance of the move to the new school timetable on 12 July. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our students once again for the positive way in which they have approached the challenges of “lockdown” and all our parents/carers for the fantastic support you have given to the school throughout this period.

Although we will be maintaining a system of control measures to keep our school covid-secure when we start the new timetable, we will be giving students across all year groups their full entitlement to the curriculum. We will be maintaining separate exits/entrances and zones during break/lunch times but students will have access to learning spaces across the school site. Movement around the building will be supervised and a “soft” stagger will be used to ensure that students are kept within their year group bubbles.

The staggered start and finish to the school day for the final two weeks before the summer holiday will be as follows:

New Year Group	Site Entrance/Exit	Start Time	Finish Time
7	Steyne Road Site – Playground Transition week only for the four Seaford primary schools	9.00am	Mon : 3.15pm Tues – Fri : 2.40pm
8	Steyne Road Site – Back of Sports Hall	8.50am	Mon : 3.25pm Tues – Fri : 2.50pm
9	Arundel Road Site – enter through student gate by Reception On Monday 12 July only, students will be directed to the playground where they will be met by their new tutors.	8.50am	Mon : 3.15pm Tues – Fri : 2.40pm
10	Arundel Road Site – Through Staff Car Park On Monday 12 July only, students to meet at 9.00am on the MUGA opposite the Arundel Road site where they will be met by their new tutors.	9.00am	Mon : 3.20pm Tues – Fri : 2.45pm
11	Arundel Road Site – Main Field Entrance On Monday 12 July only, students to arrive for a 9.00am start	8.50am	Mon : 3.25pm Tues – Fri : 2.50pm
12	Bridging work from home	-	-
13	Designated 6 <sup>th</sup> Form Entrances to all 3 sites	8.50am	Mon : 3.25pm Tues – Fri : 2.50pm

**Seaford Head Academy Trust**

**Mr R Ellis, Headteacher**

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We will continue with our expectation that students and staff wear face masks in corridors and community spaces. This expectation has been reintroduced as part of the national guidelines that can be found here <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-in-education/face-coverings-in-education>. Students should sanitise their hands after removing their face masks and safely store them in a sealable plastic bag between uses. Students should bring their own hand sanitiser into school so that they maintain good hand hygiene throughout the day and a water bottle to keep themselves hydrated.

The control measures that are in operation to keep our students safe include:

- Increased cleaning routines
- 2 metres space around teachers and staff
- Reduced movement of teachers
- Staggered start to the days, breaks and lessons
- Student Services supervision of student movement in the corridors
- Designated exits, entrances, play spaces, toilets, canteen serveries and Covid medical rooms for each year group
- Masks in corridors and community areas
- Student home-testing; tests will also be sent home for the summer holiday period for Years 8 - 13
- Learning taken outside whenever possible
- One way system introduced in some areas
- Site footfall minimised
- Meetings by prior appointment only
- Hand sanitizer and desk wipes in every classroom
- Seating plans for every lesson
- Continual reinforcement of the “Hands. Face. Space. Fresh Air” guidance and the “catch it, kill it, bin it” approach to respiratory and hand hygiene

Our students’ response to the Covid guidelines has been exemplary and these standards must be maintained. Everyone has a responsibility to make sure that they are not mixing with students from other bubbles and we welcome parents/carers support in ensuring this is maintained outside of school. Parents/Carers can also make sure that they are encouraging their children to walk/cycle/scoot to school and should not enter the school site unless they have made an appointment in advance. I would also like to remind parents that Thursday 8 July and Friday 9 July are staff INSET days to prepare for the new timetable and students should not be in school.

It’s very exciting for our students to be starting the “new” year early as we always find that there is real pace and focus to their learning at a time of year when some students’ motivation can start to drift. In addition to current students “moving up” a year. We will also be welcoming students in from our four Seaford primary feeder schools for the week beginning 12 July as our New Year 7s, to give them a full week’s experience of secondary school before they officially join us in September. Their primary “bubbles” will be maintained in lessons but they will be allowed to interact with other Year 7 students (socially distanced) at break and lunch times. We are sending lateral flow tests out to our four Seaford primary feeder schools so that our New Year 7s can carry out a test before they join us for the first time on the morning of the 12 July. If children record a positive test, they must self-isolate and students must not attend if they are displaying any of the symptoms associated with Covid. The latest covid guidance can be found <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>.

For the transition week, we would ask that all new Year 7 students bring a packed lunch; we will provide food for our students who receive free school meals. This will avoid the mixing of bubbles in the canteen queue at lunch times. Students joining us from non-Seaford schools will have a 2 day transition beginning on the 19 July.

This early start to the timetable is also very important for our current Year 8 students who are moving up to the Arundel Road site to start Year 9 and their GCSEs/ BTEC courses. When they return after the summer break our new Year 9 students will be familiar with the demands of GCSE/BTEC study and have full access to their course materials.

The taster day for our Year 10 students, and the induction day for Year 11 students moving into our Sixth Form will also be taking place; details regarding these events have been communicated separately. We will be seeing lots of our new Year 7s, 11s and 13s in school over the holidays for their summer school provision; this information has also been sent out in a separate communication.

A-Level results day will be on 10 August and GCSE results day will take place on the 12 August.

I hope that all members of our school community enjoy a really well-deserved summer break when it comes. If our students do find that their holiday begins to “drag”, there are lots of materials online for them to access. The key to their future success is their independent learning skills and spending some time on study over the holiday will ensure they really hit the ground running when they return to school in September. The summer holiday is also the ideal opportunity to catch up on some reading which will benefit our students across all subject areas.

I will write to you before the end of the summer holiday to update you on the most recent covid guidance. In the meantime, I would like to wish you all a very positive start to the new academic timetable and thank you for the support that you have given to the school over the past 16 months.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Ellis', written in a cursive style with a large loop at the end.

Mr R Ellis  
Headteacher