



## End of Year Update – Summer 2021

Dear Parents / Carers,

I hope you are all safe and well. This is not the end of term letter I thought I would be writing, and I thank you for your patience and understanding throughout these challenging times. The recent school closure, due to a number of staff contracting COVID-19 was not how we planned to end the school year, but your support really has been appreciated over the past year.

I am now in a position to outline our plans for the start of the new school year in September for all returning pupils.

### Start of the new school year

School will re-open to staff on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September for a Training Day; pupils will begin returning to us from Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September, though the return will be staggered to facilitate us testing pupils in Key Stages 3 and 4.

#### Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September

All pupils in Key Stage 2 (Years 3 to 6) and Year 11 will return to school, with the start time of 09:00. Year 11 pupils will initially be placed in the Sports Hall, seated two metres apart while we conduct Lateral Flow Device (LFD) tests on all pupils we have consent for, if their result is negative, they will then transition into lessons.

#### Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September

Year 10 pupils will be expected in at 09:00, as with the Year 11 pupils, they will initially be placed in the Sports Hall, seated two metres apart while we conduct LFD tests.

Key Stage 3 pupils (Years 7 to 9) will be expected in at 11:00, again - as with the KS4 pupils they will be placed in the Sports Hall so that we can complete LFD tests.

All pupils will be back in school - full time, from Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> September. On Friday 10<sup>th</sup> September we will conduct the second round of LFD testing for Year 11 pupils, and on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September we will complete the second round of LFD testing for pupils in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10.

### Uniform

We fully intend on starting the year with all pupils in full, correct school uniform, this includes all Key Stage 2 pupils; below are the details of the school uniform.

<b>KS2 Uniform Years 3, 4, 5 &amp; 6</b>	<b>KS3 / KS4 Uniform Years 7, 8, 9, 10 &amp; 11</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Plain black trousers or black knee length skirt.</li><li>• White polo shirt.</li><li>• Plain black V-Neck jumper.</li><li>• Black footwear suitable for a busy school environment.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Plain black trousers or black knee length skirt.</li><li>• White Shirt (short or long sleeved), no polo shirts.</li><li>• Plain black V-Neck jumper.</li><li>• Black footwear suitable for a busy school environment.</li></ul>

For KS2 pupils who are at the school on a Preventative Placement from a mainstream primary school, pupils can continue to wear their home school's uniform.

If pupils arrive at school and are not in correct uniform, they will be directed to return home to change, and sanctions will be applied on their return to school.

## School Day

Below is a reminder of the school day for the different Key Stages in school; this year we have trialled separate Break and Lunch times for different groups and this has been a success, we will continue this system in the new school year.

### Key Stage 2

- 09:00 - 09:20 Form Time / Interventions – Focus on Literacy
- 09:20 - 10:10 Lesson 1
- 10:10 - 10:50 Lesson 2
- 10:50 - 11:00 Break
- 11:00 - 11:45 Lesson 3
- 11:45 - 12:10 Lunch
- 12:10 - 12:20 Drop Everything and Read (DEAR)
- 12:20 - 13:10 Lesson 4
- 13:10 - 14:00 Lesson 5
- 14:00 - 14:10 Form Time

### Key Stage 3 & Key Stage 4

- 09:00 - 09:20 Form Time / Interventions – Focus on Literacy
- 09:20 - 10:10 Lesson 1
- 10:10 - 11:00 Lesson 2
- 11:00 - 12:00 Lesson 3 / Break
- 12:00 - 13:10 Lesson 4 / Lunch
- 13:10 - 14:00 Lesson 5
- 14:00 - 14:10 Form Time

<b>Cohort</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
KS3	11:00 - 11:10	12:00 - 12:20
Year 10	11:15 - 11:25	12:25 - 12:45
Year 11	11:30 - 11:40	12:50 - 13:10

## Lockers / Personal Belongings

In the new school year, we will continue to have lockers available for all pupils, pupils should only bring essential items into school. All pupils will be allocated their own set of equipment including pens, pencils and books. When entering the school building pupils will be expected to hand in all personal possessions to staff; this includes coats, bags, mobile phones, etc. These possessions will then be securely locked away in pupil lockers for the remainder of the school day. When there are concerns about what pupils may be bringing into school, we will conduct 'bag checks' to ensure that no illicit items are being brought into the academy. At the end of the school day pupils will have their possessions returned; those pupils who have detentions / sanction time after school will receive their possessions once the sanction is completed.

## Transport

Following Government guidance - face masks will still be compulsory on our minibus; any pupil refusing to wear a mask will not be allowed on the bus, if a pupil removes their mask on the journey – the bus will be stopped, and the pupil will be removed from the bus.

We are changing the locations and timings of our minibus in the mornings and afternoons, below is a detailed breakdown of the changes made. Please do read the schedule carefully, the bus will not wait for pupils, we do expect them to be on time at each pick-up / drop-off point.

Pupils who board the minibus in the morning will be given priority in the afternoon for the return journey. Where appropriate, we will prioritise younger pupils accessing the minibus. All other pupils will be expected to make their own way to school.

#### **Morning - Route One**

07:30 Minibus leaves the Academy  
07:40 Salterhebble Bus Stop  
07:45 West Vale Academy, Bus Stop on Rochdale Road  
07:55 Elland, outside Morrisons  
08:10 Brighouse, Wilkinson's Car Park  
08:20 Southowram, Village Fisheries Bus Top  
08:35 Minibus arrives at the Academy

#### **Morning - Route Two**

08:40 Minibus leaves the Academy  
08:50 Vue layby  
09:00 Minibus arrives at the Academy

#### **Afternoon – Route One**

14:15 Minibus leaves the Academy  
14:25 Vue layby  
14:35 Minibus arrives at the Academy

#### **Afternoon – Route Two**

14:40 Minibus leaves the Academy  
14:55 Salterhebble Bus Stop  
15:00 West Vale Academy, Bus Stop on Rochdale Road  
15:10 Elland, outside Morrisons  
15:25 Brighouse, Wilkinson's Car Park  
15:35 Southowram, Village Fisheries Bus Stop  
15:50 Minibus returns to the Academy

### **Year 11 AP Transition Funding**

The Government recently announced that schools such as ours are eligible for additional funding for the new school year. This funding should be used to support our current Year 11 cohort from September 2021 to February 2022, to help them into employment, further education or training.

We have commissioned Leanne Owen, our Careers Advisor from C&K Careers, to work with us for an additional sixty days in the new school year to lead on this initiative. Leanne will be in regular contact with all of our Year 11 pupils to make sure they are accessing all the support they may need; this is a great opportunity, which I am confident will make a real impact to those who have left us this summer.

Leanne will be in touch over the summer break to check in with all pupils to build on the good work she has already been doing for us throughout the school year.

Over the summer we will also be running a series of workshops / sessions for our Years 11 leavers, the aim of these sessions will be support pupils with CV writing, job / college applications, interview skills etc. We are planning for these sessions to run every Tuesday, further details will follow next week.

### **Summer Support**

Throughout the summer we will continue to keep in contact with all families; we are intending to make contact every two weeks – on a Monday, to see how the children are doing during the summer break. This regular contact is an opportunity for you to discuss any questions or concerns you may have regarding the above arrangements.

## Term Dates 2021-22

<b>2021 Autumn Term</b>	INSET Day	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> September
	Re-open to pupils	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> September
Half-Term	Close	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October
	INSET Day	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> November
Christmas	Re-open to pupils	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November
	Close	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> December
<b>2022 Spring Term</b>	INSET	Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January
	Re-open to pupils	Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January
Half-Term	Close	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> February
	Re-open to pupils	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> February
Easter	Close	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> April
<b>2022 Summer Term</b>	Re-open to pupils	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> April
	May Day	Closed
Half-Term	Close	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> May
	Re-open to pupils	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> June
Midsummer	Close	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July
	INSET	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> July (Disaggregated) Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> July (Disaggregated)

Thank you for taking the time to read through this information and I hope it has provided you with some reassurance and clarification of the steps we are taking in the new school year. Can I say, on behalf of all the staff at The Whitley AP Academy, thank you for all the work you have done during this period of home learning and for your continued support. Take care, stay safe and have a restful summer.

Yours sincerely



Phillip Hannah  
Headteacher, The Whitley AP Academy

...where hearts and minds connect