



## Update 26<sup>th</sup> June

Dear Parent / Carer,

Every year, one of the most challenging tasks within a school is to construct the calendar for the year ahead. Since taking over as the Headteacher in September, I have had many rewarding things to do and many I would describe as enjoyable. One of these was definitely to delegate the task of doing the calendar. It's one of those 'damned if you do, damned if you don't jobs; "Why has he put that there?" "That's a long gap between those two things!" "Parents evening clashes with a Sunderland match". Teacher training days are scheduled for specific points across the year within the calendar. Normally, one before school opens, to review summer results and plan for reopening. A second in October, to take stock of how school has started and adjust any systems or routines, and a third, in late June, to review the year and plan for any changes. Today was scheduled to be the June PD Day. Due to the current circumstances, the nature of this day has changed significantly, however every teaching member of staff is at school today. They have one task to complete and one task only. It's been titled COVID Recovery. Each department is currently hard at work re-designing their schemes of work and lesson planning to ensure that every student doesn't miss out as a result of the enforced break. We are leaving nothing to chance. Children get one crack at an education and it is our responsibility, regardless of unprecedented circumstances, to make sure this is the best education they can get. I hope it reassures parents that we continue to be on the front foot, so that as and when we get a full cohort of students back into this building, they hit the ground running.

## Uniform

We have been in touch with SWI, our uniform supplier, and they have assured us that supply and delivery will not be an issue for September. SWI link <https://www.swischoolwear.co.uk/>

## Results Day for Year 11

GCSE results day for year 11 will take place on the 20<sup>th</sup> August. There have been a few articles in the press recently about how results day will 'look', so I feel it is important to clarify our thinking.

1. We will have a results day (some schools are planning just to email results). In previous years, results days have been an absolute highlight, with the entire community getting together to celebrate hard work and dedication.
2. Results day will have press and photographers present to celebrate the achievements of the students.
3. Results day will meet the current requirements for social distancing, and as a result, we will look at staggering their collection, similar to the hoodies.
4. Results day will be (weather permitting) outside.
5. If students can't attend on the day, they will be posted home accordingly, or emailed on the day itself if preferred – contact [info@woodham.org.uk](mailto:info@woodham.org.uk) if you would prefer the emailed option.

\*Results day arrangements may be subject to change with updated government advice.

Cont...

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## Year 6

If you are aware of any year 6 students / families joining us in September, encourage them to visit the year 6 section of the website, where key members of staff have recorded videos in order to introduce themselves. In previous years, every student in year 6 would have visited Woodham as part of the transition process, but due to closure, this has been cancelled. We felt the videos would at least allow people to put a face to a name.

### And finally...

My daughter regularly asks me “dad, what do you actually do at school?”. I suppose I really should know the answer to this, but just to give you an insight into the varied and sometimes complex nature of schools / school leadership, I thought I would share some recent email subjects I have received in my inbox. Enjoy trying to guess what these were about:

1. Bubbles in school
2. Clay elephant
3. Thailand
4. World Ocean Day
5. Harry Potter club attendance
6. Hoodies
7. Fantastic staff!
8. Numpty (yes, that was the actual subject title of an email I received, although he was talking about himself, honestly!)
9. Guess the baby
10. I can change your life (sales pitch to be honest, but it got my attention initially)

Just to reassure parents / carers, I do get far more regarding staffing, funding, budgets, teaching etc, but they wouldn't provide as good of a guessing game. Have you worked out who the 'numpty' was yet?

Stay safe,



Andrew Bell  
Headteacher