



Stockport Academy

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

July 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope that this letter finds you and your families well.

I am writing to confirm the end of term arrangements for this academic year and to discuss arrangements for the start of term in September. This letter is lengthy however it contains important information that parents need to be aware of in order to support your child's return to school in September.

Students finish school on Tuesday 20th July from 12.00 noon, students who are eligible for a free school meal will be able to collect their meal before leaving the premises.

As you may be aware, the government have asked secondary schools to ensure that all students are offered two onsite lateral flow tests (LFT) at the start of the new academic year. The first of these needs to be before returning to lessons to allow any positive cases to isolate at home. The timetable for this testing is shown below. For these first tests, students will come in and test and then go home.

Our testing programme starts on 6th September with full return to school being on 8th September. We will complete the second LFT in school.

Monday 6th September	Year 7 Covid testing then back home Year 11 Covid testing then back home (see timeslots below)	9.00 – 12.30 1.00 – 3.00
Tuesday 7th September	Year 7 transition day Years 8 ,9,10 testing then home (see timeslots below)	8.30 – 2.40 10.00 – 2.00
Weds 8th September	All years in school	8.30 – 2.40

Monday 6th September (Only students from Years 7 and 11 will be coming into school on this day)

Testing schedule for current Year 10 in to 11. Students do not need to wear uniform

Current (2020/21) Form	Time to arrive at school.
10KCA and 10MCO	1.00
10ECR and 10KFI	1.30
10SKE and 10LLW	2.00
10LYM, 10AMC, 10LWH	2.30

Stockport Academy
Heathbank Road
Cheadle Heath
Stockport SK3 0UP
t 0161 286 0330

enquiries@stockport-academy.org

www.stockport-academy.org

Twitter: @sptacademy

Principal: Mrs Janine McCann B.A. (Hons) NPQEL

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Tuesday 7th September

Year 11: Stay at home
Years 8,9,10 Testing and then going home
Year 7 transition day in school

Testing schedule for years 8, 9 and 10 - students do not need to wear uniform.

Current (2020/21) form	Time to arrive at school
7LDO, 7DJO, 7AWR	10.00
7BLA, 7FMU, 7BWA	10.30
7HRO, 7JTH, 7MTI	11.00
8MAB, 8BAK, 8SAS	11.30
8MON, 8JLI, 8GST	12.00
8FSA, 8LTA, 8CWL	12.30
9YEG, 9AHA, 9CHI	1.30
9LLA, 9CLE, 9HLU	2.00
9EPR, 9SWK	2.30

Wednesday 8th September

Year 7 and Year 11 school photo day – Braiswick photography will be coming into school to take professional photos of students in these two year groups. We are required to keep an up to date photograph of our students on record for safeguarding purposes, so all students are required to have their photos taken. Parents/Carers will then be offered the opportunity to purchase these photos direct from the photographer if they wish.

Please note that we will complete lateral flow tests based on consent already received by the academy for Years 8 to11 unless we are informed otherwise via angela.milnes@stockport-academy.org

There is no denying that this pandemic has provided unprecedented challenges, but I am proud of how every member of our Stockport Academy community has responded. Students have achieved some phenomenal achievements both inside and outside the classroom this year, albeit much of this virtual – myself and all our staff are so proud of them. Our students have developed maturity, resilience, self-discipline and determination over this academic year in the face of adversity, this will equip them to achieve amazing success in keeping with our Future Me during their remaining time at the Academy.

When we return to school in September you will be aware that many of the Covid limitations regarding the management of schools will be lifted. However, in order to support students and limit transmission, some of our changes to the school day will remain, including: split social times, students will be expected to sanitise hands regularly throughout the day and our sanitising stations will remain, we will continue to maximise ventilation by having open windows and doors when practicable to do so. Our one-way system will remain for the foreseeable future. Year groups will continue to meet in an allocated welcome area each morning at 8.25am. Breakfast will be available from 8th September from The Pod.

The current guidance for schools in the Autumn term suggests that students will need to only isolate if they test positive themselves. Students will still be expected to complete twice weekly lateral flow tests at home – this is important to control transmission. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our families that have supported each other and the Academy with lateral flow testing over the course of the last term so that we have been able to work together to limit the spread of Covid-19 in school as far as possible.

Students travelling on public transport will still be encouraged to wear face coverings.

In September all of our co-curricular activities will return to face-to-face delivery. Please be reminded that we expect all of our Year 7 and 8 students to attend co-curricular at least twice per week, one of which being a PE activity. Year 9 and 10 students should attend co-curricular at least once per week to take advantage of the many opportunities that are available to help with their personal development, outlined in the Future Me assessment tool that all students are working towards during their time at Stockport Academy.

Reports

All parents will receive reports for this academic year from Tuesday 20th July. If you do have any queries in relation to a single subject please feel free to contact the Subject Teacher or Curriculum Area Leader directly through the main school enquiries email; enquiries@stockport-academy.org Please mark it for the attention of the appropriate member of staff. If you have any queries in relation to subjects across the curriculum please mark it for the attention of your son/daughter's Head of Year or Pastoral Manager.

Chromebooks

A number of students in all year groups currently have in their possession Chromebooks that belong to Stockport Academy. I would really like our students to keep these Chromebooks in a safe place over the holiday and take the opportunity to make good use of them on our return to school in September. Chromebooks are to support all students in their extended learning, homework and catching up work missed during school closures. In our usual way we will also be holding online learning competitions over the Summer holiday for students in all year groups on all of our online learning platforms; GCSE pod, Hegarty Maths, Educake, Sparx, Seneca, Language Nut, Bedrock vocabulary and TT rockstars for our incoming Year 7. Prizes will be awarded on our return to school in September – you have to be in it to win it!!!

It is our understanding that all of our students are equipped to complete work online - please contact your child's Pastoral Manager if this is not the case.

Independent Study

From the next academic year, we will be focusing on independent study (previously referred to as homework). Independent study will be of increasing importance as staff work with students to catch up any lost time from the last academic year and any impact of Covid-19. All students will be set independent study in keeping with our timetable, this will be shared with you in September. It is our understanding that all students have resources to complete independent study, please contact your child's Pastoral Manager if this is not the case.

In Maths this year part of our student's home learning will be online; for Years 7, 8 and 9 it will be on Sparx. This is a fantastic package which helps students deepen their understanding, becoming more independent learners. Students can gain XP points, gaining certificates and rewards for their good work. Sparx home learning will be set every Friday, due the following Friday. We will be expecting students to achieve 100% completion on their tasks for them to have completed that week's home learning. In order to support students with this there are online videos to help with every question, additionally there will be in school drop-in sessions every week where staff will be there to help guide and support students. If your child has not completed their Sparx by Friday, then they will stay after school on Friday for an hour's detention.

Uniform/Behaviour

'School uniform supports effective teaching and learning and engenders a positive, calm and respectful teaching and learning environment' Department of Education.

With regard to uniform, students should not attend school with false nails, nail polish, fake tan, make-up or earrings. Students will be expected to wear appropriate footwear to school; trainers or pumps will not be permitted. Sports shoes or boots are not permitted - this includes, but is not exclusive to; Adidas, Vans, Converse, Timberland or Nike. Girls should wear a full shoe or one with a strap. For further information in relation to uniform and shoes please see <https://www.stockport-academy.org/information/uniform>

Boys should return to school with haircuts no shorter than a number 2. Shaved patterns and any unnatural dyed colours will not be acceptable. Trousers should be tailored and not tight fitting, students are not permitted to wear denim trousers to school. Please note it is Stockport Academy that reserves the right to determine what is acceptable.

Students whose behaviour or uniform is considered unacceptable will not be permitted to attend any trips or off-timetabled activities. Stockport Academy will reserve the right to make the final decisions in relation to behaviour or uniform that is considered acceptable or not.

I also wish to remind you that in the school energy/ fizzy drinks are prohibited. Energy/fizzy drinks have been proven to impact negatively on behaviour and focus, and therefore will not be permitted in school – where staff see students with a fizzy or energy drink this will be confiscated.

In the interest of health and safety, students are not permitted to bring to school any deodorant in aerosols. Should students wish to use deodorant/antiperspirants then they should bring the solid stick type.

Mobile phones are not permitted; if teachers become aware of students being in possession of, or using, mobile phones over the course of the day phones will be confiscated until collected by a parent.

The Academy reserves the right to confiscate banned items or items not required for the school day and dispose of if appropriate. Alternatively, confiscated items of value will be returned directly to a parent or carer.

Attendance

We know that all students will require some degree of catch up after the disruption of the past academic year. It is therefore essential that every student attends every day from the beginning of term so that we can quickly return to normal curriculum content.

Attendance will be required at school and will be monitored as it has been in the past. Unauthorised absence will be treated as such and followed up accordingly. We would like to thank all parents who support their children in ensuring that they arrive at school on time and that they have regular school attendance. As you know, we expect all students to be in school 100% of the time and appreciate all parents who have worked with us to ensure that their child's attendance is 100%. There are a number of rewards that we have offered to students to celebrate 100% attendance including early lunch on Friday, pizza on Monday and raffles.

We do understand that some students may still be absent due to the impact of Covid-19.

It is essential that everyone – students, parents and staff – continues to follow the NHS guidance and that they do not come into school if they are experiencing any symptoms until a test is completed and results are available. Thus, we would ask every parent to keep any child displaying symptoms of Covid-19 at home and immediately inform the school.

Schools will not ask anyone to self-isolate due to cases notified to them on return in September. From the 16th August, the requirement to contact trace will be replaced for under 18s and fully vaccinated over 18s by a request to get a PCR coronavirus test. Only those actually testing positive will need to isolate.

Results

We are looking forward to seeing the hard work by our Year 11 pay off with excellent academic grades in August. A separate letter has been sent to Year 11 regarding the distribution of exam results this academic year.

Every year Stockport Academy publishes total GCSE results for each student alongside other local schools in Manchester Evening News – please inform us if you wish to withdraw from this by contacting enquiries@stockport-academy.org for the attention of Mrs Helsby. This must be done by the student before 2nd August and the student will receive a confirmation email.

Year 11 2021-22

The final year in a secondary student's time at school is their biggest challenge as they work towards achieving their best in their exams. To support this, in Year 11 the academic day finishes at 3.30pm each day allowing additional time to complete classwork, homework or revision. This gives all students the opportunity to develop independence in their learning, access to intervention support and the tools to fulfil their potential in external assessments.

Stockport Academy Mobile App

I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents to download our MyEd app if you have not already done so, this enables us to communicate with all of our families more effectively and more immediately. MyEd is the free parent app that gives you a multitude of communication and information features to stay in touch with what is going on at school. The app gives you direct access to your child's attendance, timetable, absence records, behaviour and much, much more. You will also see that we update and change the information in the app as the school year moves along. You can download this by visiting www.myedschoolapp.com

We are able to send you messages directly to the MyEd app relating to important information about your child's education and to remind you of events that are taking place at school.

You will receive a notification if we send you a message and there is no charge for the messages you send to us.

The MyEd app is available for Apple iOS and Android devices and can be found on either the Apple App Store or on Google Play by searching for MyEd.

Once you have installed and opened MyEd, search for Stockport Academy and follow the simple instructions to identify yourself.

We hope you enjoy using the app and find it a useful source of information.

Our latest newsletter showing some of the great things over the past term at Stockport Academy will be available on our website over the holidays and will be sent out digitally in the next week. In the meantime, please do keep up to date with the life of the Academy by following us on Twitter @sptacademy, Instagram and Facebook (both @stockportacademy) and the website www.stockport-academy.org

Thank you for your patience and understanding over the past few months. Everyone at the Academy is looking forward to welcoming our students back in September.

Yours faithfully



Mrs J McCann
Principal