



Clacton County High School

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Higher Expectations, Raising Aspirations

Our reference: CTALET1/LH

10th September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: WELCOME & WELCOME BACK!

With the first full week of the academic year completed, I would like to extend a very warm welcome to our latest cohort of students into year 7 and a welcome back to all of our other year groups. It is great to see everyone back in school and really excited and ready for the forthcoming year.

Students have returned looking exceptionally smart in their school uniforms and I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents for taking note of our expectations. Full information on uniform is available on our website, but if you have any issues or require any support, please do not hesitate to contact your child's relevant pastoral team via admin@cchs.school; staff are available to help.

The new year 7s are settling into CCHS life extremely well, already they have found their way around the school and have been introduced to our expectations and the opportunities that secondary school is able to provide. The programme of extra-curricular clubs is currently being put together and will be published as soon as it is available. Taking part in activities outside of the classroom is very important; whether a student's interest lies within STEM, drama, music, dance, art, sport or academia, there really is something for everyone and I would encourage all students to participate in an activity linked to an area of interest. The clubs allow students to socialise with other peers that may not be in their forms and classes and perhaps from other year groups. The school community is very important to us and creates a real sense of unity and pride.

I am delighted to be able to announce that this year we are able to hold our annual open evening. This will take place on Thursday, 23rd September and, to give you advance warning, school will close at 1.15pm to allow us to prepare. The evening is a very special event in the school calendar and I am very pleased that we are able to showcase our school to prospective year 6 Students from across the local primary schools, to take a look around and sample some of the exciting things that happen at secondary school. The aim of the evening is to provide as much information as possible to enable the year 6 students and their parents/carers to help make the most appropriate secondary school choice for September 2022.

Whilst we are delighted to be getting back to some normality, we are still required to follow the guidance issued by the Department for Education and Public Health England. Therefore, twice weekly LFD testing for students and staff continues this year. Students have been sent home with testing kits and should test on Wednesday and Sunday evenings each week. This is a very successful tool that keeps not only our school community safe but also protects our local community beyond the school gates. Your support as parents in ensuring that your child takes the tests twice-weekly is very important. Following the test, the results should be registered via the school's Test Register service, details of how to do this and a weekly reminder will be sent by email to the parent designated as first contact for their child on the school system.

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Included within this letter is a [flow chart issued by Essex County Council](#), which gives advice and guidance on self-isolation and testing and this may be of use to parents. Alternatively, please do not hesitate to contact the school directly if you have any uncertainties in regards to testing or ambiguities around possible symptoms, close contacts or self-isolation. Students may, of course, continue to wear face coverings if they wish.

Each week we send out an email; the 'Weekly Mailing', this includes links to all important communications sent throughout the previous week. Links lead you to information for both whole school and your child's relevant year group. In addition, we publish our Weekly News, which has many articles on the amazing things that our students do, but also has important details and dates for parents to note. A copy of the Weekly News is always available to view via a link within the weekly mailing or on the school website. Please ensure that we have your most up to date email address so that you do not miss out on vital communications.

Finally, from an educational point of view, the year ahead looks promising and we remain optimistic that with home and school working together, our students can all achieve their potential and remain healthy and happy in school.

I wish everyone all the very best for the year 2021-22.

Yours sincerely

Chris Taylor

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Head of School