



PARK HIGH SCHOOL

22 July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As the year draws to a close it is an opportunity to reflect on what has been another challenging year. Despite another lockdown and further disruption to the life we all knew before COVID, your children have been amazing, they have been resourceful, hardworking, and resilient. They have been incredibly kind to one another, made the most of every opportunity we have been able to offer, restrictions permitting, both in and outside the classroom. I had the privilege of interviewing Year 12 students a few weeks ago for a range of sixth form posts, their passion and commitment to help fellow students in all kinds of ways was staggering. If this is the quality of our young adults, then the future is in safe hands, and I believe it will be a kinder place. This is not a lost generation; this is a generation inspired to be proactive in making the world a better place. Staff have worked hard to help students see problems as opportunities not barriers, that despite COVID the pages of their lives are not yet written and in response, we see young people thriving and determined to succeed. Better times are coming for us all.

The end of the year inevitably means changes in staffing as colleagues move forward in their careers or relocate to pastures new or indeed retire. It is always sad for both students and staff when a teacher leaves, but this year is a little sadder as we see the retirement of a long serving colleague who has dedicated some twenty-seven years to the Park High community. Mr Mike Haldenby joined Park as Deputy Headteacher in 1994 and is now looking forward to spending more time with his family and travelling, when restrictions allow. On behalf of the Park High community, I thank him for his service and wish him well in retirement.

Public examinations

Year 13 and Year 11 will receive separate communication on collecting their results.

A level results day Tuesday 10th August 2021

GCSE results day Thursday 12th August 2021

September 2021.

At Park High we have set high standards and expectations of ourselves and our students. Our responsibility is to ensure that when students leave us, they are well prepared for life as citizens in the twenty first century. You, as parents will have rules within your own homes which your family know and understand. In your places of work, you will have regulations set out by your employer. In school we have systems and processes in place to ensure the smooth running of the school a community of over 1500 young people and over 200 staff. To ensure that all students make the best start possible in September it is important that I share with you the expectations so that you can talk to your children before they return.

Headteacher Mrs Colette O'Dwyer

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Park High School is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales with registered number 7689613

Registered office: Thistlecroft Gardens, Stanmore, HA7 1PL



School uniform

This is a school with a uniform code agreed by the governing body. The list of school uniform has been widely circulated. Shops, including school uniform providers, have been open since April therefore all students are expected to be in full uniform for the start of the new academic year. Please do not allow your child to tell you that black trainers will be accepted instead of school shoes, they will not, whatever their appearance and students are well aware of this.

If you are experiencing difficulties, please contact the Pastoral Support Assistant for your child's year group. We comply with all government legislation with regards to items which have the school logo and support keeping costs of school uniform affordable and accessible to all. Our school supplier is Teenywear in Wealdstone which whom we work very closely. Please check the school website for images of what is and is not school uniform.

Behaviour

We have a School Code which is clear on how students are expected to conduct themselves, it is in their contact books and displayed in classrooms. Students are in the business of learning, and we will hold to account behaviours that interrupt learning or the welfare and health and safety of others. Expectations are high and exceptional support is provided to help students grow and learn to be the best they can be including in their behaviours. It is based on a fundamental belief in respect for all.

School Code

- Keep safe and keep others safe
- Be part of a school that allows people to learn
- Help others wherever you can
- Bring credit to Park High School in our community
- Make those you care about proud of you

Community

We have missed the contact we had with you our parents, COVID 19 restrictions moved our usual opportunities to meet into the virtual world. You have told us that you found the virtual parents' evenings helpful and easier, and we will take this into account in our planning for next year. We are intending to provide a variety of opportunities and events for you to be able to join us on site celebrating the achievements of our young people or perhaps attending a performance of the school production in January 2022. All of which is dependent on government guidance in the Autumn term.

Testing

Our latest government guidance is that all students returning to school in September 2021 will be offered two lateral flow tests. Separate guidance will be sent on how we intend to facilitate this at Park with the minimum of disruption to the start of the school year. For now, please note that on **Friday 3rd September all students will come in at their tutor group's allotted time to be offered a lateral flow test then they will need to return home. The first teaching day for all students is Monday 6th September.** Your child's allotted time will be published later in the summer.

In line with current government guidance, from 16th August schools are no longer required to separate year groups into 'bubbles'. Therefore, from Monday 6th September students will follow a normal pre-covid timetable. With regards to face coverings, we would encourage students and staff who wish to wear face coverings to continue to do so. Hand sanitisers and wipes will still be available. The school day will start for all



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students regardless of year groups will start at 8.30 and finish at 3.10 and there will be one lunch break and one morning break for all. The expectation is that all our extra curricula activities will also begin in September, including lunchtime offers. If guidance changes during the summer holidays we will update accordingly.

I would like to thank you all for your continuing unflinching support and words of encouragement and I wish you and your families a peaceful, happy, restful, and healthy summer break.

Stay well and stay safe.

Kind regards,

Colette O'Dwyer
Headteacher

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