



June 26th 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this letter finds you and yours safe and well.

Firstly I would like to extend my thanks and appreciation to all of our parents, carers and wider families for your support this term. We are living through times none of us could ever have imagined and the strength of our Colmers Community has been a phenomenal source of inspiration and comfort throughout.

As we move towards the end of term, I have key updates for you about preparations for September. However, I still cannot tell you exactly what will be happening as the Government Guidance is not expected until next week! This means I will continue to update you, including during the Summer Break as necessary.

For now, you will find information below on the following:

- **Key Dates for Your Diary**
- **Consultation on our Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education Policy**
- **Changes to the Times of the School Day**
- **End of Term Arrangements**
- **Start of Term Dates and arrangements September 2020 (provisional)**

Key Dates for Your Diary

Wednesday July 7th or Thursday July 8th 6p.m.: Parents / carers of new year 7 students will be sent an invitation to one of these induction sessions, which will take place on Zoom.

Thursday July 9th 9.30 a.m.: Year 13 Graduation Ceremony, 9.30 a.m. – Year 13 students and families all welcome. Zoom invites will be sent out to all.

Wednesday July 15th 9.30a.m. – 3p.m.: Year 11 and Year 13 Leavers' Day – students are invited on-site, families are welcome to attend with them. Specific time slots will be sent out to all students.

Thursday July 16th 9.30 a.m.: Year 11 Leavers Assembly – Year 11 students and families all welcome, Zoom invites will be sent out to all.

Friday July 17th: School closes for the Summer Break

Consultation on our Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education Policy

From September 2020, all secondary schools have a statutory duty to deliver Relationships, Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education. Our new policy can be found here: <https://bit.ly/2VkJfOY>

We would really appreciate your views on this new policy and you can share these with us here: <https://bit.ly/3811EtW>. The closing date for this consultation is Friday July 10th.

This consultation will inform the final version of our policy. We will continue to seek your views and work with parents and carers as we implement the policy from September.

End of Term Arrangements & Results Days

Our term ends on Friday July 17th. There will be no academic support sessions on the afternoon of Friday 17th.

Results Day for Year 13 will be on Thursday August 13th.

Results Day for Year 11 will be on Thursday August 20th.

Full details of results day arrangements will follow.

Changes to Times of the School Day from September 2020

We have reviewed our school day for next year and are proposing the following changes:

- Increasing Tutor time in the morning from 15 minutes to 20 minutes. This will allow proper time for the form tutor to meet with their form group and for assemblies.
- Reducing the Lunch Break from 40 minutes to 35 minutes. We know from this year that once the routines are established in the first few weeks of the year, all students have finished eating in the canteen before the end of the break and many are bored for the last part of the break.
- Stopping form time at the end of the day and dismissing students straight from period 5: the last ten minute tutor time was rushed and did not add value to the school day.

As a consequence of these changes, the start time of our school day remains the same but the end of the day will be 3.00 p.m. from September, rather than 3.05 p.m.

If you have any concerns or queries about these changes, please do not hesitate to email me at eleaman@colmers.school

September 2020 - Start of Term Dates and Arrangements (provisional)

Please note: we are awaiting Government Guidance before we can confirm how we will be operating at the start of term.

Tuesday September 1st and Wednesday September 2nd : Staff INSET Days

Thursday September 3rd and Friday September 4th : Years 7, 11 and 12 only in school

Monday September 7th : All Year Groups in school

Uniform

All students are expected to return to school wearing full school uniform. Please consult our website for guidance: full details will be sent out next week along with the Annual Parent/Carer Key Information Booklet.

As lockdown eases, it is important that we all remember the social distancing guidance still in place so we keep ourselves, our loved ones and our community safe. While it is tempting to hope that the threat of COVID-19 has now passed, the risks remain very significant and as a school community, we continue to make every effort to minimise the risk of virus transmission.

As ever, if you have any concerns or queries, please do get in touch. I will be writing again before the end of term to update you on our plans for September.

Yours sincerely,



Emma Leaman
Headteacher