



# Oaklands School

"The best for all, the best from all"

17<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope that you are remaining safe and well.

As I am sure you are aware from recent government announcements, there is a great deal of concern about the rise in Covid-19 cases, both locally and nationally, due to the Delta variant now becoming the dominant variant across the country.

Schools have received no information about what will happen in education for September and like everyone, I am wishing and hoping that the school can operate in the way it did before the pandemic started. However, this may not be possible and we may be working in year group bubbles as we have this year. Due to this uncertainty, we are planning two possible timetables for September so we are prepared for both eventualities. If we are instructed to operate in Covid-19 bubbles as we have this year, then unfortunately, it will again restrict certain aspects of the school, meaning that some subjects in key stage four won't be able to run (e.g. options subjects) and that educational visits and residentials will be restricted or may not happen. As I mentioned earlier I truly hope this isn't the case and that Oaklands can run and offer the full curriculum and enrichment provision as we previously have. I will of course keep you updated as soon as I hear anything from the government or the local authority.

## INSET days and information for the 2021/22 academic year

In a previous letter that I sent to you I stated that there would be three INSET days in September (Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021) and that I would confirm the other dates at a later time. There has been a slight change to the INSET plan and start to the Autumn term as described below,

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021 – INSET day

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021 – INSET day

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021– Yr 7 transition day (**only year 7 pupils will attend on this day**)

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021 – School opens for all year groups

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021 – School closed (due to the day in lieu for school staff regarding the Queen's Platinum Jubilee additional bank holiday in June 2022)

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2022– INSET day

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> and Friday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2022– INSET days (therefore the last day of the school year will be Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2022)

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*Head Teacher: Neil Oxley*

As you will see from the dates mentioned above, the first day of the school year will be Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021. However, the school will only be open for year 7 pupils. Next year's year 7 pupils have had a very difficult year in terms of transition to high school. We haven't been able to provide the usual amount of support to help them with the significant change, including not being able to put on traditional transition days. Therefore it seems only right that they are provided with a day to settle into Oaklands. I trust you understand that supporting pupil wellbeing must be a focus and why this decision has been made.

You will also see from the dates above that on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021 the school will be closed. This is because for the next academic year, the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, which is an additional bank holiday, falls in the summer half term. Due to this school staff are provided with a day in lieu, and this will be taken on the 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns regarding the content of this letter, please contact the school.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Oxley', written in a cursive style.

Mr Oxley

Headteacher