

26 February 2021

Dear Parent,

Year 7

I am writing this from my virtual class room between online lessons and a cat that will not take the hint that I need to get on. I have seen the most wonderful work being produced by Year 7s and I am so please that I have managed to speak to so many of them as individuals over this lock down period. I have had countless positive comments from staff about how impressed they are with the way Year 7 have approached the challenges of this work from home time. As we return to school it will be this positive attitude that will be the drive they need to succeed upon return.

As a school we are very aware that the lockdown periods have been a challenge for you as parents and for your children, as their 'normal' life has been turned upside down. As we did in September, we will be looking to support all of our students when they return, in whatever ways we can and in whatever ways they need. I am speaking with parents daily and receiving emails about how home life changes and any issues that students may have. If however there are things you think I may not know please do get in touch.

I want the return to school to be as seamless as possible for Year 7 so that they only have positive experiences when returning. With this in mind please can I ask that students arrive with their correct uniform, equipment, mask and a really positive attitude and approach to the challenges ahead. The young people's resilience has been tested in a way we never thought imaginable this year. I am all too aware of the isolation that the young people will be experiencing. We as a school have taken the decision to bring all students back together so that no one misses out more than they already have. We have also given them slightly more social time in that first day so that they feel they can catch up with those peers that they may not have spoken to for some time.

In the summer I asked for your help, I would ask for it again now. Please set your child up for success. Please look again at the uniform policy on in the planner and make sure their first day is a positive one.

I am so looking forward to seeing the year group again.

Yours sincerely

Mr Janes
Head of Year 7, Teacher of Drama & Photography