



SEAHAM HIGH SCHOOL

Engaging minds, broadening horizons

Seaham High School
Station Road
Seaham
Co. Durham
SR7 0BH

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Head Teacher: Mr G.W Lumsdon

Deputy Head: Mrs A Carr
Deputy Head: Mr J.E Henderson

14th July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you for your support during the most challenging academic year. The last three weeks in particular have been the most challenging and frustrating especially seeing as we are meant to be coming towards the end of restrictions. The number of cases we have experienced as a school and community I believe have been unprecedented. To put it into some form of perspective we have had 49 cases since June 21st which may have links within the school but certainly have impacted on the school. Hopefully, moving forward we can look towards better times. I look forward to a world without bubbles and isolation. As we plan the return to school in September it is important to note the following items. Please can you discuss these with your child so they are fully aware and understand them

- **Return to normal school day:** Please be aware that we shall be returning to the usual school day with no staggered start or end times. The students have asked to keep the separate brunch and lunch areas which we are doing. This means all year groups will have separate Brunch and Lunch in their own designated areas both inside and outside of the building.
 - **School begins at 8:40am and ends at 3:00pm for all students**We will line up students in designated areas as we have done this academic year at the start of the day.
- **Bubbles system:** The 'bubble' system we have had to use this academic year will no longer be in use. This means that students will be moving between classrooms. We will reintroduce the One-way system, which students will be told about on their first day, and employ all of the hygiene, cleanliness and sanitising routines we currently have in place.
- **Testing:** In order to reduce transmission in schools after the 6 week break, the government has asked us to recommence in school testing at the start of the new school year. This will help identify those staff and students who are asymptomatic. To prepare for this they are recommending that all students have two tests in school to remind them how to test themselves correctly. This process is voluntary and if you do not give consent then your child will not be tested at school. This is a logistical challenge as you would expect. **A separate message will be sent with an appointment time for your child's first test.** If you do not consent then your child should not turn up for their appointment. Once the first test has been completed and a child has not tested positive then they can return to school at the next available opportunity. If a child does test positive then they must self isolate and take a PCR test.

The testing process will take place in the Sports Hall and students should report directly to the Sports Hall entrance a few minutes prior to their appointment time for their first test. School gates will be open so parents can park on site if they are bringing their child to the appointment. All staff and students are expected to wear face masks whilst on site for the testing process unless exempt.



EMAIL : OFFICE@SEAHAMHIGHSCHOOL.COM

WWW.SEAHAMHIGHSCHOOL.COM



Students will conduct the test themselves and staff will guide students through the process to support them as much as we are able. If you have any questions about this process please contact office@seahamhighschool.com in September and a member of staff will contact you to discuss your query.

AM testing will begin at 8:30am and PM testing will begin at 1:00pm

Year Group	Date of First Test	Date of return to school	Date of Second Test	Normal Hours of the day
Year 7	Thursday 2nd September (AM)	Friday 3rd September	Monday 6th September	8:40am- 3:00pm
Year 8	Monday 6th September (PM)	Tuesday 7th September	Friday 10th September	8:40am- 3:00pm
Year 9	Friday 3rd September (PM)	Monday 6th September	Wednesday 8th September	8:40am- 3:00pm
Year 10	Friday 3rd September (AM)	Monday 6th September	Tuesday 7th September	8:40am- 3:00pm
Year 11	Thursday 2nd September (PM)	Friday 3rd September	Tuesday 7th September	8:40am- 3:00pm

- **Face Coverings:** When students return to school in September students and staff and students are able to wear them if they wish. Please be aware that this may change if we are advised to by Public Health England.
- **Remote Learning:** We will issue work via Google classroom for students to complete whilst we implement a staggered return due to testing. These lessons will not be live lessons as staff will be supporting the testing process and teaching students as they return to face to face teaching.

Keeping Students and staff safe

Preventing the Spread of Covid-19: I would ask all parents and carers to read these notes carefully and talk them through with their child prior to return so that they are clearly understood:

- If anyone in school (student or staff member) develops symptoms they must not come into school. If they do, they will be sent home and advised to take a PCR test. If a child with symptoms is awaiting collection, they will be moved to a room where they can be isolated behind a closed door, depending on the age and needs of the child, with appropriate adult supervision if required.
- From 16 August 2021, children under the age of 18 years old will no longer be required to self-isolate if they are contacted by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case. Instead, children will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test. We would encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so.
- It is very important that students clean their hands regularly; when they arrive in school, at the start of every lesson, especially before and after eating, and after using the toilet.
- We will ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the “catch it, bin it, kill it” approach.
- **Students will continue to be required to sit in allocated seating plans.**

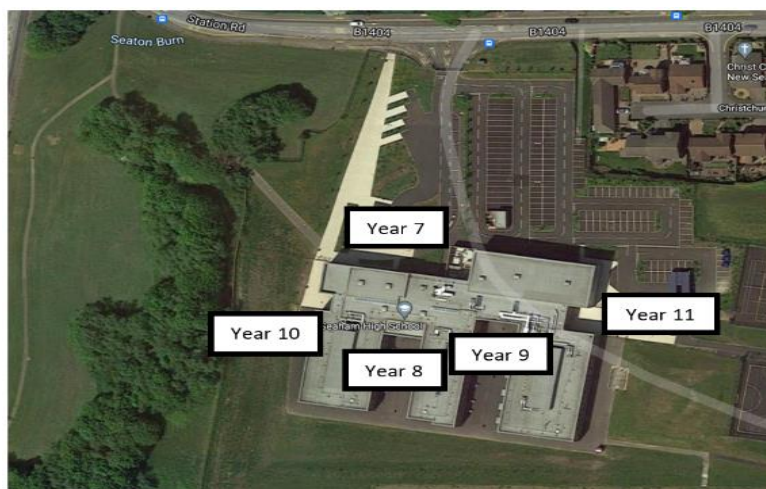
Home/School Contact Details:

It is always important for us to hold the correct contact details for you and your child, but never more so than now. I would also ask parents/carers to ensure they are easily contactable during the day. Staff are not allowed to transport students in staff vehicles.



Arrival and departure from site-

Year Group	Designated Entry/Exit Gate	Registration point	Designated Entrance/Exit
Year 7	Side gate off the Mill Inn Bank	Outside the assembly hall in front of the school	Through the main green gate and in via the main student entrance. Tutor base is West Wing Ground floor
Year 8	Side gate off the Mill Inn Bank	Quad outside dining hall doors	Via glass doors leading to the dining hall. Tutor base is Central Wing Ground floor
Year 9	Enter by the Main gate off Station Road	Quad outside PE glass doors	In via glass doors outside PE. Tutor base is Central Wing First floor accessed via stairs outside Maths workroom
Year 10	Enter by the Main gate off Station Road	Tarmac area outside Competency classroom	In via the main student entrance - first before Y7. Tutor base is West Wing First floor
Year 11	Enter by the Main gate off Station Road	Paved area outside community entrance	Via community entrance. Tutor base is the East Wing. Students access the East Wing First floor via stairs at the back of the East Wing Ground floor.



I hope you have a restful break, stay safe and look forward to seeing all the students once again in September. I shall re-issue this letter prior to returning and of course keep you updated with any further developments. Once again a huge thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Mr G.W. Lumsdon
Head Teacher