

TM/KAW/End of half term – October 2020  
October 2020

To Parents / Carers of all students at SHS

Dear Parents / Carers

As we approach the end of the first half term of the Autumn Term, I wanted to take a moment to thank you all for your support and kind words during what has been a challenging time for schools, students, families and, in fact, all areas of our community. The strains that COVID19 is placing on society reaches well beyond health, affecting education, the economy and mental well-being. It is at these moments that we must all remain strong, stick together and do everything we can to protect the future for our children.

As Principal, I would like to publicly thank all the staff of Shirley High School that have been heroic in their efforts to protect the educational future of our children. They themselves have to manage their own families while protecting all within our school and their hard work and dedication never goes unnoticed.

As we promised throughout this crisis, we will constantly review all we do, to ensure that what we offer our children provides them with the best educational opportunities and environment possible. We have therefore reflected on the school day and the change in season, plus the rise in COVID19 cases and have made the decision to adjust our school day to allow students the opportunity to get home earlier during winter.

**School day from Tuesday 3 November 2020:**

| Year Group | Tutor   | Period 1 & 2     | Break   | Period 3 & 4     | Lunch   | Period 5 & 6    | Dismissal |
|------------|---------|------------------|---------|------------------|---------|-----------------|-----------|
| 7          | 8:20am  | 9:00am – 11:00am | 9:45am  | 11:00am – 1:15pm | 11:45am | 1:15pm – 2:35pm | 2:35pm    |
| 8          | 8:20am  | 9:00am – 11:00am | 10:00am | 11:00am – 1:15pm | 12:15pm | 1:15pm – 2:45pm | 2:45pm    |
| 9          | 8:30am  | 9:00am – 11:00am | 10:00am | 11:00am – 1:15pm | 12:15pm | 1:15pm – 2:55pm | 2:55pm    |
| 10         | 8:30am  | 9:00am – 11:00am | 10:45am | 11:00am – 1:15pm | 12:45pm | 1:15pm – 3:05pm | 3:05pm    |
| 11         | 8:40am* | 9:00am – 11:00am | 10:45am | 11:00am – 1:15pm | 12:45pm | 1:15pm – 3:15pm | 3:15pm    |
| 12         | 8:40am  | 9:00am – 11:00am | 9:45am  | 11:00am – 1:15pm | 11:45am | 1:15pm – 3:05pm | 3:05pm    |
| 13         | 8:40am  | 9:00am – 11:00am | 10:45am | 11:00am – 1:15pm | 12:45pm | 1:15pm – 3:15pm | 3:15pm    |

***\*Year 11 will start school at 9:00am on Tuesday and Thursday.***

***\*\* Curriculum catch up sessions will run for selected Year 11 students from 8:20am on Tuesday and Thursday.***

***\*\*\*Extended Learning for Year 11 and 13 will start at 3:15pm for selected students.***

***\*\*\*\*Extracurricular clubs will be available for all year groups at the end of the school day. Start times will vary depending on the dismissal time of that particular year group.***

***\*\*\*\*\* Year 7 have an in-class break for 10 minutes at 1.05 pm***

We appreciate that any decision made away from the “normal” expectations will be challenging for some, but, as a school, it is important that we do what we believe is right for our students and staff during these challenging times.

To support with the running of the school during Pre-Public Exams (PPEs) both Year 11 and Year 13 will be granted study leave, which will help them to manage the challenges of completing exams during a time of COVID. It is important that families ensure students are at home revising and not out in the community. Now is the time to stick together and protect the health of the most vulnerable within our society.

I would like to thank you again for your support and hope that after the half term we are able to move forward as a society and start to have greater consistency in how we adapt to the challenges we face.

Remember we are all in this together and together **#weareshirley**

Yours sincerely

***T Myton***  
***Principal***

