19th July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

**Arrangements for start of Autumn Term 2021**

It was very disappointing to have had to move from in person to online learning in such an abrupt way last week. Once again this has been an unusual year and it is testament to most of our pupils that our attendance levels remained high throughout what was another disrupted period due to Covid-19. I am sure that we are all pleased to have reached the summer break where we can recoup and refresh ourselves.

As you know we had planned many trips for pupils for the last week of term and these sadly had to be postponed. However, we will ensure that they are rearranged for the next school year.

In line with government guidance, we will be staggering our start to the new school year in order to ensure that all pupils have a Lateral Flow Test at school before the school opens to everyone. Please note carefully the date your child should return to school:

Wednesday 1st September 2021 Staff INSET - school closed to all pupils

Thursday 2nd September 2021 **KS3 pupils only** on site (ie Years 7, 8 and 9)

Friday 3rd September 2021 **KS4 pupils only** on site (ie Years 10 and 11)

Monday 6th September 2021 **All pupils** return to school

Pupils are expected to be in school by 8.45am.

School transport will be advised of these dates. If your child is an independent traveller, please make appropriate arrangements for their return to school according to their year group.

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***If your child tests positive for Covid during the 10 day period before returning to school, please advise the school urgently and do not send them to school until their self-isolation period of 10 days is up and/or their symptoms have disappeared, whichever is longer.***

I will be closely monitoring government guidance for schools and will issue a new risk assessment for opening in September in due course. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the start of term, please email the school office on office@apoakhill.org.uk and the appropriate person will contact you.

Sadly, two of our teachers will not be with us for different reasons next school year. Mr Evans, our PE teacher since 2011, will be moving to the USA and Miss Singh, English Teacher since 2016, will be on maternity leave for the 2021-22 academic year. I know you will join us in wishing them well and thanking them for all they have done – and will continue to do – for our young people. I am pleased to announce that we have recruited two excellent teachers who will bring the same levels of professionalism, dedication and care that both Mr Evans and Miss Singh are known for.

In the meantime, I would like to thank you all for your support and wish you and your families a happy and healthy summer break. I look forward to seeing you all in September.

Kind regards

Kevin Grant

Head