



# Fulford School

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9th July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

## **Football success**

It's been great to see our pupils and staff arriving at school today in their England tops, getting into the spirit for what we hope will be a successful Sunday. A big thank you to Amanda and her team in the school canteen who has made England biscuits for all at school.

## **Alternative Curriculum**

Today has also been our alternative curriculum day where pupils are able to immerse themselves in different areas of the school curriculum and beyond, both inside and outside the classroom. Over the coming weeks Year 7 will also partake in an Arts Festival around the school run by the art, music and drama departments. The arts have an important role to play in all our lives and it should be an exciting experience for all involved.

## **Art Instillation**

All pupils and staff in school are taking part in creating an art instillation that will take a prominent place on the outside of our building. The instillation will signify the strength of all within our school community who have together supported one another and shown great resilience and kindness during the pandemic.

## **COVID-19**

The Secretary of State for Education announced government plans around the removal of bubbles, testing and isolation post 19th July 2021.

On return from the summer holidays (after 16th August 2021), children under 18 will not need to self-isolate if they are a contact of someone with COVID-19.

From 19th July 2021, tracing of contacts will be done via NHS Track and Trace and not the school. Lateral flow testing will be widely available over the summer holidays and can be collected from pharmacies or ordered online.

Prior to return to school, we will arrange for two on site lateral flow tests either in school or at community testing facilities and twice-weekly lateral flow tests will continue until at least the end of September.

As communicated in my letter last week the school will maintain all its COVID secure protocols until the end of term, including the use of bubbles, our one-way system and the use of face coverings in indoor communal areas. Can I please also ask that you continue to let us know of any positive lateral flow tests your children may have so that we can shadow contact trace for the final week of term.

## **Parent/Carer survey**

Can I please ask that you complete the parent and carer survey accessed by the following link. It is really important that we have a strong dialogue with parents and carers about what is going right and what can be improved. Link - [Parent Survey July 2021](#)

## School Expansion

Yesterday at the Area Planning sub – committee, permission was given for the expansion of Hawking building and a reconfiguration of entry and exit from the school, creating a second school entry/exit point through Germany Beck.

Tens of thousands of York residents have been educated at Fulford School. Our links to our communities and families are strong, providing stability and social cohesion. We are a comprehensive school; pupils come to Fulford irrespective of social background or academic ability. For many years, we have been heavily oversubscribed due to demographic changes in our catchment area.

In order to make sure that all pupils living in our catchment area in the October of their Year 6 have a place in their local school, we have taken pupil numbers above our published admission number (PAN). We are presently in a position that we are not able to accommodate the number of pupils CYC have predicted will need to join Year 7 and live in our catchment.

CYC have asked us to expand the school in order to make sure the need for pupil places are met. If we do not, then in the very near future children who live in our community and would expect to come to Fulford will not be able to come. We don't want this to happen. We want to support families, like you, who want their children to have access to an outstanding, local comprehensive secondary school.

We are very mindful of the upset that has been felt by some of our near neighbours and the strong opinions held, especially around bus access and exit. We understand their concerns and have worked with appropriate professionals to minimise the impact the buses have on both residents in and around Fulfordgate and Germany Beck. We will work closely with our community to help alleviate their concerns.

An expanded school allows us to not only provide continuity of education from 3 to 19 across our community but also to improve the environment for pupils already at Fulford and support a city wide commitment to educational excellence.

## End of term and September arrangements

School will finish at 12:35 on Friday 23rd July. Buses will leave at 12:45.

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September will be INSET days (staff training days).

Year 7, Year 11 and Year 12 will return to school on Wednesday 8th September.

All other year groups will return on Thursday 9th September.

As mentioned earlier, two on site lateral flow tests will be made available to pupils prior to their returning. We will let you have more details about how we will manage this process over the coming weeks. This may change the timing of pupil returns.

Yours sincerely



Steve Lewis  
Head Teacher



The South York Multi-Academy Trust.

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