



THE SOLENT SCHOOLS

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1 September 2020

Arrangements for the Autumn Term

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that you have all managed to have a restful and relaxing summer break. As we begin to look forward to retuning to school on Thursday 3rd September, I felt it important that I write to you all. I have no doubt that the start of the Autumn term this year will bring with it a very mixed bag of emotions. Each of us start this term with very different experiences of 2020 largely based upon our journey through Covid 19. Some of you will have continued to attend school throughout, albeit with vastly different arrangements in place, whilst others amongst you won't have been through the school gates since late March. Our priority, as you all return, is to understand and respond to each and every one of these emotions in the most effective way we possibly can.

The staff at Solent have already been and will continue to work very hard to ensure that we are able to best support each and every one of our pupils in feeling safe, confident and happy within school once again. Our core belief at Solent has always been that in order to thrive academically pupils need to be socially and emotionally happy. This is perhaps more important now than ever before. That said, once your child is confident and comfortable in school, we will be working hard alongside them to identify any gaps that may have appeared in their academic learning and address these in the most effective ways possible.

Back in July I wrote to you to clarify arrangements for the full reopening of the Solent Schools this September. I pointed out that, whilst there were many things that may have changed, there were also many familiar and reassuring things that will have stayed the same in school. We must remember this and also remind our children of this as we prepare them for their return later on this week. I strongly urge you to re-read this letter to remind yourself and your family of the information contained within. It has also been attached to this email for ease of reference.

Within that letter there is a link to a presentation that explains all of the points covered and also adds a little more detail in a more user-friendly format. This is still available on the school websites. In addition to this, we would advise that you now also watch a new and revised tour of the school sites with your child. These tours broadly cover the new site arrangements and place your child as the intended audience with the aim of reassuring them before they return. You can access this tour by visiting the school website, or by [clicking here](#) for the infant school tour or [here](#) for the junior school tour.

Please do be patient with us in September, as we are all learning, just like you! Don't forget, we are here to look after you and your children and will do everything we possibly can to ensure that you all feel safe and happy upon your return to the Solent Schools. We are all here to support you along the way.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming you back on Thursday 3rd September!



L Wilby

Executive Headteacher

The Solent Schools