



Dear Parent/Carers,

We are nearing the end of what has been an incredibly challenging academic year and I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support throughout this time.

As your new Principal, it has been wonderful to hear how the Halewood community has pulled together and supported each other. We now, more than ever, realise the importance of schools in our young people's lives. Halewood staff have been working relentlessly to ensure that they are supporting our students and their families both inside and outside of the classroom and I would like to both acknowledge this immense effort and thank them for their selfless approach. A special mention should be given to Ms Gallagher, whose exceptional leadership as interim Principal has maintained high standards and consistency throughout.

We are very much looking forward to our next, less complicated, academic year (2021-22). With the government announcement last week, school should start to feel more normal and I am sure we will all welcome this. The announcement to end the 'bubble' system means that students will be able to access subject specific teaching spaces again. The number of students who are self-isolating will also reduce with the recommendation that only those who test positive isolate.

There is an expectation that students should be given an opportunity to complete lateral flow tests prior to their return. We do recommend this, however, it is optional and will only be carried out with your consent. As a result, the return date for students is as follows:

Year Group	Test 1 By Form Group	Return to school date (before 8:45am)	Test 2 By Teaching Group
7	Thursday 02/09/21 Between 8.45am – 10.45am	Friday 03/09/21	Tuesday 07/09/21 Lesson 1 and 2
8	Friday 03/09/21 Between 8.45am – 10.45am	Monday 06/09/21	Wednesday 08/09/21 Lesson 1 and 2
9	Friday 03/09/21 Between 11.00am – 1.45pm	Monday 06/09/21	Wednesday 08/09/21 Lesson 3 and 4
10	AGL; AGN; HRE; JCA- Thursday 02/09/21 Between 1.30pm – 2.30pm JKL; JNC; RKE; STA- Friday 03/09/21 Between 1.45pm – 2.45pm	Monday 06/09/21	AGL; AGN; HRE; JCA- Tuesday 07/09/21 Lesson 5 JKL; JNC; RKE; STA- Wednesday 08/09/21 Lesson 5
11	Thursday 02/09/21 Between 11.00am – 1.00pm	Monday 06/09/21	Tuesday 07/09/21 Lesson 3 and 4

More information on testing protocol and appointment times will follow, however consent needs to be provided before our return. Please use the following link to give consent. The deadline for this is 24th August. <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=->





[CBHuLTWmUe7Dsc6sVuMnU7cJByz45hKhp2nH49NIAhURiNPOTFCUEs0SEM5WDJURD
BLOVRaQ0FNRC4u](https://www.halewoodacademy.co.uk/parents/school-uniform/)

We have such high expectations for our students and one of my priorities will be ensuring that those who consistently do the right thing get the recognition and opportunities that they deserve. I have already met many students and it is clear that they are our absolute strength. They are happy, polite and hard-working. The leaders of tomorrow.

In preparation for your child's return, please can I ask that you support the school by ensuring that the following expectations are met:

Uniform

Please take the time to look at our uniform policy to ensure that your child is correctly presented and fully equipped to learn: <https://www.halewoodacademy.co.uk/parents/school-uniform/>

We would like to draw your attention to the following, examples of each can be found using the above link:

- **School bags** must be black, have two straps and be big enough to fit an A4 folder, books and a PE kit. Handbags are not permitted.
- **School shoes** must be leather, black and with a plain design. Trainers, pumps or shoes with bows are not permitted.
- **Jewellery**- students may wear a wrist watch. They may also wear a symbol of faith, which should be hidden. All other jewellery including piercings (ears and facial); bracelets; rings; and non-faith-based necklaces are not permitted.
- **Hair, nails and make-up**- students should ensure that hair styles are not extreme and any colour change should appear natural. Make-up; false eyelashes; false nails or nail varnish are not permitted.

If students arrive with incorrect uniform, they will be provided with the correct uniform so that they are able to access their regular lessons.

Attendance and Punctuality

We would ask that all parents and carers support the school with ensuring excellent attendance and punctuality throughout the year.

There is a very strong link between school attendance, punctuality and academic achievement. Research shows that less than 95% attendance every school year equals one grade difference across all GCSE's. Therefore, we have a minimum attendance target of 96% for every pupil.

All year groups are expected to arrive before **8:45am**.

For further information, please see:

<https://www.halewoodacademy.co.uk/parents/attendance/>



Mobile Phones

Students are not permitted to use mobile phones, or AirPods/headphones, anywhere on the school premises. If these are seen or heard at any time, they will be confiscated.

For more information on the length of confiscation and protocol for return of items, please see: https://www.halewoodacademy.co.uk/downloads/2020-21/policies_documents/mobile_phone_policy_july_2021.pdf

Homework, Intervention and Catch-up

There has been unavoidable lost learning time due to the pandemic. We are currently putting together robust plans, for all year groups, to support catch-up in school. You will hear more about this in September. Of course, developing subject knowledge can also take place outside of the school day and homework plays a very important role in this. Homework will be set regularly by departments. We would ask for your support in checking what homework has been set and that your child has completed their homework, on time, to the best of their ability. If you need any support with how to help your child, please contact their progress leader.

I will write to you again in September to inform you of some dates for parent forum meetings. I would really welcome the opportunity to meet with, and gain feedback from, as many of you as possible so that we can work together to make Halewood Academy the best school that it can be. I strongly believe that the more positively engaged you are in your child's education, the more likely they are to be successful.

Have an excellent summer.

Yours Sincerely,

Ms Tracey Rollings,

Principal