

03 September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

**Re: Welcome to Year 10!**

We are very pleased to finally welcome our new Year 10 students back into school after the most difficult of times for you, the students and us! The systems and procedures to keep everyone safe will bring new challenges for us all but we know that with everyone working together we can meet these adversities with positivity and optimism for the year ahead. Our continued high standards and expectations of all of the school community will lead us on our journey to help maximise the potential of all our young people, both academically and in terms of their personal growth. There is a staggered return to school and also a different start, break, lunch and end time to the school day for each year group. It is therefore vital that parents and students are aware of the key information below:

- **Year 10** will return to school on **Tuesday 8 September 2020 at 9.45am**.
- **Year 10** will enter and exit school through the **Amphitheatre Entrance**, down the path from the main school gate.
- **Staff will meet students in the Amphitheatre to guide them to their first lesson of the day.**
- **Year 10** will be taken through all of the details that they will need to know to follow our Covid secure procedures in their first lesson.
- From **Wednesday 9 September 2020 onwards**, **Year 10** will follow their **normal school routine starting at 8.55am and they will finish at 2.50pm**. They will always enter and exit school through the **Amphitheatre Entrance and Exit**.
- A **detailed school timetable for Year 10** lesson times, breaks and lunches **will be given to students** and you will be able to access this on Firefly and the school website.
- **Year 10** will be able to **purchase food at lunchtime** in the canteen. Due to the new Covid compliant systems in place, food will not be available to be purchased at break time. Students are advised to bring their own break time refreshments in to school.

**Working together – we must all be responsible for playing our own part in ensuring the safety and well-being of all our school community.**

- In order to support each other it is absolutely **vital that the students are on time**; failure to do so will mean the additional Health and Safety systems that have been put in place will be at risk. We thank you for your support with this very important part of our safety procedures.
- **Students must look after their equipment** as staff cannot lend this out. We will provide all students with a basic pack at the beginning of term and they will need to look after this and their own equipment carefully.

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T: 024 7644 4822 | F: 024 7663 6282 | [www.caludoncastle.co.uk](http://www.caludoncastle.co.uk) | E: [enquiries@caludoncastle.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@caludoncastle.co.uk)



Headteacher  
**Mrs M Marr**



- Students must **follow the instructions** that they are given by staff to ensure everyone remains safe and able to attend school.
- In light of recent government announcements we would **strongly encourage all students to have their own face mask to wear when moving around the corridors or when they are congregated together in their year bubble**. The masks should carry no offensive words, images, sporting logos or scary designs. We ask that they have a clear bag to keep their mask in so that it remains clean throughout the day.
- We would ask that students bring their own small bottle of hand sanitiser, although all classrooms will have one, it will be useful to have their own personal one too. They should sanitise before they put their mask on and when they take it off.
- **Water fountains will not be in use and therefore we would ask that students bring their own water bottle, they will have the opportunity to refill their bottle at lunchtime only.**

### The Team

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the leadership team for the new Year 10. Mrs Devine is the Year 10 Pastoral Leader. Mr Stokes is replacing Mr Morgan as the Leadership Team link for the year group supported by Associate Deputy Headteacher, Ms McManus. Mr Carter will support Year 10 in his role as Deputy Headteacher and Head of KS4.



Mr Carter  
Deputy Headteacher



Mr Stokes  
Assistant Headteacher



Mrs Devine  
Year Leader



Ms McManus  
Associate Deputy Headteacher

### Our tutor team:

10.1 Miss Ivin	10.6 Mrs Duffield
10.2 Mr Ison	10.7 Miss Mallet
10.3 Miss Warde	10.8 Miss Harris/ Miss Pettipher
10.4 Miss Walch	10.9 Miss Newton
10.5 Mr Waine	10.10 Mr Davoile

We are also very pleased to welcome Miss Pettipher and Mr Davoile as new tutors to the team. Mr Davoile will be leading the newly created 10.10. Our Year 10 student support mentors are Mrs Bridges and Ms Vadaria.

### Virtual schooling

We were proud and delighted that this year group demonstrated a good and consistent engagement with virtual learning. Many students adapted to the Firefly system, submitting work on line and working with their teachers and year leaders to continue to learn and make progress. Students, staff and parents had to adapt quickly to a new way of learning and engaging alongside the challenges that Covid 19 brought to us all. The speed with which everyone did this was something we can all be proud of. The resilience and positive attitude that young people showed is admirable and we are so proud of those young people and the families and staff that supported this.

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*Respect to all, from all*

## Graduation

Whilst we were fully expecting nearly all of our old Year 9 students to graduate last year, sadly, in reality, we were unable to celebrate their wonderful achievements in the usual way. We do, however, look forward to being able to do this at the end of this academic year, in whatever form it may take. The graduation process will continue to support, monitor and reward the attendance, punctuality, progress and positive attitude of students and ensure that they continue to develop the essential skills that allow them to succeed. KS4 students who graduate from Year 9 are awarded a KS4 tie. These ties will be distributed to all graduates accordingly during the first term.

## Key dates – Autumn Term

Some dates for this term, that you may want to make a note of, are highlighted below. Trips outside of school will not be happening for obvious reasons, but also because we think it is essential that students have as much class time in school as possible.

Tuesday 8 September	Y10 return to school at 9.45am
Monday 26-30 October	Half term
Saturday 19 – Sunday 3 January	Christmas holiday

## Information Evening

We would like to have a parent information evening, but due to the current constraints, the current plan is that this will be recorded and available online from Friday 9 October 2020. Should the guidance change, we will of course review this. The parent information will provide an opportunity to share information on:

- Targets and banding
- The graduation system
- Firefly and home learning
- E-safety
- Anti-bullying
- The year ahead

We thank you again for all of your patience and understanding in these unusual circumstances and would like to reiterate that our focus is now on the well-being of our young people so that they can move forward as safely as possible and continue to progress their academic and personal development. We wish your child every success in the academic year ahead and please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries or concerns. Please contact Mrs Devine in the first instance.

Yours faithfully

Mr Carter  
Deputy Headteacher

Mr Stokes  
Assistant Headteacher

Mrs Devine  
Year Leader

Ms McManus  
Associate Deputy Headteacher

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