



CORNELIUS
VERMUYDEN
SCHOOL

Respect, Resilience, Responsibility

August 2020

Dear Parents/Carers and Students

I do hope that you are enjoying the summer holidays. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our students on the many successes that they achieved last year during difficult circumstances for us all. You will have a chance to read about these in our newsletter, on Twitter and on the website. So far this summer the hard work undertaken by students last year has been rewarded with some excellent GCSE results from our Year 11 students and the Year 10 GCSE English Literature students.

I am also writing to confirm arrangements for the start of the new academic year and to provide you with information that may help in preparing for the return to school.

Start of Term Arrangements

For health and safety reasons, we will stagger the first two days of term to ensure all students have a clear understanding of how the school will operate and the new systems that have been implemented in response to the DfE full reopening guidance.

The first day back for students in Years 7 and 11 will be **Thursday 3 September 2020**.

On this day only, the school will provide students in Year 7 with food and refreshments. Please find attached a copy of the logistics for the day. Year 11 should immediately meet at the upper school MUGA. **Students in Year 7 and 11 should not attend on Friday 4 September.**

The first day back for students in Years 8, 9 and 10 will be **Friday 4 September 2020**. All students should go directly to the MUGA. Please find attached a copy of the logistics for the day.

All students should then return to school fully from Monday 7 September 2020.

Intervention

Year 11

Departments will be offering extra after school sessions throughout the year to support Year 11 students as they head towards their exams. These will be held between 2.10 pm and 3.10 pm. All students will be welcome to attend these sessions, however students that are not making the required progress towards their target grades will be specifically targeted and expected to attend. It is crucial in Year 11 that students take all opportunities to attend any extra sessions offered – be it in term

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time or in their holidays – so that they are fully confident and on track for success in their GSCE exams.

It is also fully recommended that where coursework is part of the subject, this is completed to the highest possible standard as early as possible so that students can revise towards their exams with as much focus as possible. A successful Year 11 student is organised and in control of their workload, therefore the school fully recommends all students have revision timetables in place for the start of the new academic year. If students need support with this, please do not hesitate to see Mr Chittock as early as possible in September 2020.

Enrichment

The school intends to run an extensive enrichment programme, where every subject offers an after-school club. The sessions will be advertised in September 2020 on the school website. I would encourage all students to take part in the enrichment programme where possible and, where students have a particular interest or passion, support the leadership of an enrichment club with the teacher.

From the start of term, the following timetable will commence: -

Year 10 and Year 11

8.05 am	Arrive
8.10 am – 9.10 am	Period 1
9.10 am – 10.10 am	Period 2
10.10 am – 10.30 am	BREAK 1 (Year 11 Upper MUGA/Year 10 Lower MUGA)
10.30 am – 11.30 am	Period 3
11.30 am – 12.30 pm	Period 4
12.30 pm – 12.50 pm	Year 11 Lunch Year 10 Tutor
12.50 pm – 1.10 pm	Year 11 Tutor Year 10 Lunch
1.10 pm – 2.10 pm	Period 5

Years 7, 8 and 9

8.25 am	Arrive
8.30 am – 9.30 am	Period 1
9.30 am – 10.30 am	Period 2
10.30 am – 10.50 am	BREAK 1 - Year 7 Lower MUGA, Year 8 Upper MUGA, Year 9 KASLAKE SIDE
10.50 am – 11.50 am	Period 3
11.50 am – 12.10 pm	Year 7 & 9 LUNCH (Year 7 Lower MUGA & Year 9 KARSLAKE SIDE) Year 8 Tutor
12.10 pm – 12.30 pm	Year 7 & 9 Tutor Year 8 Lunch (Lower School MUGA)
12.30 pm – 1.30 pm	Period 4
1.30 pm – 2.30 pm	Period 5

Uniform

The wearing of professional school uniform prepares our students for their future career. In many lines of work, corporate and formal attires are required. It is essential that all students are aware of the school's expectations and parents support these fully. Cornelius Vermuyden staff will adopt a zero-tolerance approach to non-compliance to the school uniform policy.

PENNUK in Benfleet is the school's uniform provider and is able to offer the complete range of uniform and sports equipment. Their contact details are: PENNUK, 15-17 Kents Hill Road, Benfleet, Essex, SS7 5PN, telephone: 01268 751724; email: sales@pennuk.com; website: <https://www.pennuk.com>. All items of uniform should be clearly marked with the name of the student.

Please can I remind both students and parents that no hooded tops should be visible at any time (over or below the school blazer) throughout the school day and any such items seen on the school site will be confiscated. Additionally, girls' skirts should be of appropriate length and not rolled up at the waistband. Girls who choose to wear trousers must only wear straight legged trousers and not those that are tight fitting, or trousers with zip pockets at the front. Furthermore, the only acceptable school jumper is the black school jumper with yellow trim.

When buying new school shoes for September, please would parents be mindful of our formal uniform and purchase school shoes that are plain black and of formal style. All students will be expected to wear **plain black leather shoes**. As stated in the policy, '*Boots, trainers, converse, canvas pumps, multi-coloured shoes and footwear with prominent logos are not acceptable (including converse trainers)*'. These must not be worn at school by either boys or girls as they are not part of the school uniform.

Any student that fails to meet the agreed policy (available on the school website) will not be permitted to attend their normal lessons. Instead, alternative on-site arrangements will be implemented to allow students to complete their work until the uniform issue has been resolved. This consistent approach will be applied to all students, across all year groups. Whilst we appreciate notes from parents informing the school of uniform issues, the only circumstance where there will be any variation on this issue will be in cases where a medical letter is provided to the school by a GP.

Jewellery

The school regulations are that the only jewellery permitted is a wristwatch and one pair of small plain gold/silver stud earrings, i.e. one in each earlobe. These items must be removed for PE. **Other visible body piercing is not allowed.** If you are in any doubt about the suitability of piercings, please consult with the school before taking action.

Please note that students are not to wear either false nails or eyelashes to school. Any student who is found to be wearing either of these will not be permitted into normal lessons until the issue is rectified.

Mobile 'Phones

The school fully understands that in today's society parents like their child to have access to a mobile device for communication. The school's position, however, is a very straight forward one - no mobile 'phones should be visible. Staff have been clearly instructed not to search for them, but to act consistently when devices are visible. If a child wishes to bring a 'phone into school, it should be switched off and placed within their bag. Any student seen with a mobile 'phone will have it confiscated (this is relevant before, during and after school hours throughout the school premises). The first time a device is confiscated it will be returned to the student at the end of the school day, however, on the second occasion, the phone will only be returned directly to the parent/carer upon collection.

Parents should be reassured that when students need to make an urgent 'phone call, they can request to do so at Pupil Services. Our staff will assess the urgency of the call. Parents can also contact their children through Pupil Services.

The school's insurance policy does not cover damage, loss or theft of 'phones, bikes or other items.

Punctuality

I politely remind all stakeholders that punctuality is key. Mr O'Shaughnessy and Mrs Gayda will be on the front door every morning. Any student that is late on three or more occasions will be placed in isolation for the remainder of that day. The school has high standards and expects parents to support the school fully.

Ready to Learn - Equipment

As a school, we place great emphasis on presentation in exercise books. We have high expectations that students will take pride in the quality of their work and how they present it. One of our key priorities is an unrelenting focus on high quality learning. To optimise this, we require the full support of our students and their families to ensure that students are 'ready to learn'. We welcome your support in ensuring that your child comes to school every day with the required equipment. If your child forgets any of this equipment, then they will need to see their Pastoral Leader who will issue spares. We will be carrying out very regular equipment checks with students and if a student persistently does not bring the correct equipment then this will result in their Pastoral Leader putting sanctions in place for them.

Every student must make sure that they bring the correct equipment to school and to every lesson. The equipment required is as follows:-

- Black/blue pen and spare
- Rubber
- Ruler
- Compass/protractor
- Pencil and spare
- Pencil sharpener
- Coloured pencils
- Calculator: Casio fx-83GT plus
- Pencil case

Homework

Homework is of critical importance if students are to maximise their potential. Homework provides opportunities for reinforcement of work learned during school time and for students to develop their research skills. Students will need to seek information for themselves from a variety of sources and, by doing so, are helped along the path to becoming independent learners.

Having the responsibility of needing to meet deadlines promotes self-discipline, an attribute which will impact on schoolwork and beyond. All students will be expected to write all their homework

down in their planner for both staff and parent scrutiny. To support parents, all homework is displayed on the school's 'Show My Homework' monitoring system. Any issues with homework should be referred to the child's Pastoral Leader.

Students in Years 7 – 9 will receive homework from English, Maths and Science every week and other subjects on a rotation. We will, however, be trialling a new homework strategy for Years 7 and 8 from January 2021.

Students in Years 10 and 11 will receive homework from every subject each week. Each piece of homework should take between 1 hour to 1 and a half hours.

Attendance

Since its introduction in 2009, the school has been using an attendance tracker system to clearly inform parents about their child's attendance. The target attendance for each student next year is 96%+ and we hope that, through the school/home partnership, we can help every student achieve this target. Parents are requested to inform the school of any absence so that the school's records are kept up to date.

Please be aware that legislation states that term time holidays can only be authorised at the discretion of the Headteacher under exceptional circumstances. Any term time holidays which are deemed not to be 'exceptional' will result in a penalty notice from the Local Authority.

I would like to remind parents of the need to inform your child's Pastoral Leader of any change in personal details.

The school has employed two Attendance Ambassadors who will complete home visits on a daily basis to continue to drive standards.

School Trips

A polite reminder that a student who has previously been formally excluded will not be permitted to attend any residential or school trip, unless directly authorised by a senior member of staff. Please reinforce the consequences of serious negative behaviour with your child.

School Meals

Cornelius Vermuyden has gone to great lengths to improve the meals that we offer. Our in-house catering service offers a healthy, varied and exciting menu. It is staffed by an innovative and creative team led by a very experienced Catering Manager. They produce excellent food, using fresh ingredients sourced locally where possible, which is freshly cooked on-site.

If you are on a low income you may be entitled to free school meals and a breakfast club allowance for your child. If you would like to apply, please contact Essex County Council, who will be able to provide you with further details (website www.essex.gov.uk/educationawards; telephone 0845 6032200; email educationawards@essex.gov.uk).

Cornelius News and Website

For those of you with internet access, we would encourage you to look at the school's website. The website has been completely re-designed to provide easy access for information about the school (e.g. policies, staff, curriculum, newsletters, etc.) and the activities that take place. In terms of improved communication, the new state of the art website will provide parents and other visitors to the website, with a modern, functional and informative site. The address is:
www.corneliusvermuyden.com.

The school also has a twitter account under the name of @CorVermuyden. Our twitter account is updated daily and includes key events from the school day as well as important notifications and messages.

Parents' Forum

We would like to continue to engage more with parents to examine ways that we can improve on our present practices and procedures regarding communications between home and school. We already have acted on feedback where there has been a breakdown in communication. Our website is now designed to provide both parents and students with much more relevant and more easily accessible information about the school.

Last year, we formed a small group of interested parents to examine the issues of communication, homework and other school issues from their perspectives in order to secure future improvements. This was very successful, and I would like to thank all the parents who gave up their free time to meet and discuss school issues. I would like to continue with this group and recruit new parents. If you feel that you are able to contribute to this group or would like to nominate someone who could be useful, then please contact Mr Hibben (Assistant Headteacher).

Dates For Your Diary

Please find attached a list of holiday dates and training days. Any in-year changes will be notified via the school's website.

Contacting The School

If you wish to contact the school, please dial 01268 685011 and follow the instructions, holding to speak to reception. The school will issue a directory of staff extension numbers early in the new term. Furthermore, general enquiries can be made via admin@corver.rmplc.co.uk

Additionally, can I remind parents/carers that no one will be permitted onto the school site without an appointment for at least the first term. I politely request that parents/carers acknowledge this request to prevent the front office staff from turning them away. It is imperative that parent/carers contact their child's Head of Year regarding any issue, for which appointments may be granted.

Year 7 – jhilditch@corver.rmplc.co.uk

Year 8 – jlill@corver.rmplc.co.uk

Year 9 – msweeny@corver.rmplc.co.uk

Year 10 – hmarsden@corver.rmplc.co.uk

Year 11 – chittocks@corver.rmplc.co.uk

I would also like to remind parents/carers that, for safeguarding and health and safety reasons, you are not permitted to drive onto the school site to drop your children off for school, or to collect them, unless disability access is required and then using the allocated areas only. Would you please drop students off at the end of Dinant Avenue, using Central Avenue or Church Parade, and do not drive up to the school gates as this causes congestion in Dinant Avenue.

Thank you for your help, support and co-operation with all of these matters and I look forward to seeing the students again in September. Do enjoy the remainder of the holiday.

Yours faithfully



Mr I Hockey
Headteacher

Enclosures:- Arrangements for Years 7 and 11 Thursday 3 September
Arrangements for Years 8, 9 and 10 Friday 4 September
School terms and holidays sheet

Year 7 – Thursday 3 September Meet on MUGA (Food will be provided)

Period 1 8:30 – 9:30	Planners and timetables 'Getting to Know you' Activity		
	Group 1 & 2	Group 3 & 4	Group 5 & 6
Period 2 9:30 – 10:30	Assembly	Library visit	Aspirations and careers
	Aspirations and careers	Assembly	Library Visit
	Library Visit	Aspirations and careers	Assembly
BREAK 10:30 – 10:50			
Period 3 10:30 – 11:30	Lesson	Lesson	Lesson
BREAK 11:50 – 12:10			
Tutor 12:10 – 12:30	Group 1 Photos and Biometrics Group 2 – In tutor - Tutor time overview	Tutor time overview	Tutor time overview
Period 4 12:30 - 1:30	Group 2 Photos and biometrics Group 1 - Tutor time overview	Expectations lesson part 1	Expectations lesson part 1
	Expectations lesson part 1	Group 3 - Photos and biometric Group 4 - Expectations Lesson part 2	Expectations Lesson part 2
	Expectations Lesson part 2	Group 4 - Photos and biometrics Group 3 - Expectations Lesson part 2	Expectations Lesson part 3
Period 5 1:30 – 2:30	Expectations Lesson part 3	Expectations Lesson part 3	Group 5- Photos and biometrics Group 6 -Expectations Lesson part 4
	Expectations Lesson part 4	Expectations Lesson part 4	Group 6 - Photos and biometrics Group 5 -Expectations Lesson part 4
	Questions and concerns for Monday	Questions and concerns for Monday	Planned overspill of photos/biometrics Questions and concerns for Monday

Year 11 – Thursday 3 September – Meet on MUGA

	Group 1 & 2	Group 3 & 4	Group 5 & 6	Group 7
Period 1 8:10 – 9:10	Assembly	Planners and timetables	Planners and timetables	Planners and timetables
	Planners and timetables	Assembly	Planners and timetables	Planners and timetables
	Planners and timetables	Planners and timetables	Assembly	Share Tutor Programme
Period 2 9:10 – 10:10	Daily Routine PPT/Video including Hygiene	Daily Routine PPT/Video including Hygiene	Daily Routine PPT/Video including Hygiene	Daily Routine PPT/Video including Hygiene
	Expectations – uniform, behaviour for Learning and whole school sanctions recap	Expectations – uniform, behaviour for Learning and whole school sanctions recap	Expectations – uniform, behaviour for Learning and whole school sanctions recap	Expectations – uniform, behaviour for Learning and whole school sanctions recap
BREAK 1 10:10 – 10:30				
Period 3 10:30 – 11:30	Maths Baseline Test in form room	Maths Baseline Test in Form Room	Maths Baseline Test in Form Room	Maths Baseline Test in Form Room
P4 11:30 – 12:30	Maths Baseline Test in form room	Maths Baseline Test in form room	Maths Baseline Test in form room	Maths Baseline Test in form room
BREAK 2 12:30 – 12:50				
12:50 – 13:10	Share Tutor Programme	Share Tutor Programme	Share Tutor Programme	Assembly
Period 5 13:10 – 14:10	Lesson	Lesson	Lesson	Lesson

Friday 4th September (Y8/9/10 only)

Meet tutor groups in the MUGA

Y8: Lower school MUGA

Y9: Upper school MUGA

<i>Time</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Y8</i>	<i>Y9</i>
08:25		Arrive	Arrive
08:30	P1	Tutor time <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Distribution of planners and timetables - School expectations 	Tutor time <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Distribution of planners and timetables - School expectations
09:30	P2	Assemblies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A1 & A2 09:30-09:50 - A3 & A4 09:50-10:10 - A5 & A6 10:10-10:30 	Tutor time <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Classroom expectations
10:30	Break 1		
10:50	P3	Tutor time <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Classroom expectations 	Assemblies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A1 & A2 10:50-11:10 - A3 & A4 11:10-11:30 - A5 & A6 11:30-11:50
11:50	Break 2/ Tutor	Tutor time	Break 2 Karlsruhe side
12:10	Break 2/ Tutor	Break 2 Lowes School MUGA	Tutor time
12:30	P4	Lesson	Lesson
13:30	P5	Lesson	Lesson

Meet tutor groups in the MUGA
Y10: Lower school MUGA

<i>Time</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Y10</i>
08:05		Arrive
08:10	P1	Assemblies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A1 & A2 08:10-08:30 - A3 & A4 08:30-08:50 - A5 & A6 08:50-09:10
09:10	P2	Tutor time <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Distribution of planners and timetables - School expectations - Classroom expectations
10:10	Break 1	
10:30	P3	Lesson
11:30	P4	Lesson
12:30	Tutor	Tutor
12:50	Break 2	
13:10	P5	Lesson

Essex County Council School Term and Holiday Dates for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools - Academic Year 2020-2021

September 2020							October 2020							November 2020							December 2020						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4							1		1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31			
														30													
January 2021							February 2021							March 2021							April 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
25	26	27	28	29	30	31								29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30		
May 2021							June 2021							July 2021							August 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4							1
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
31																					30	31					

	= School days & weekends		= School holidays		= Bank holidays
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	= Training/non-pupil days		= Years 7 and 11 only		= Open School
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Autumn Term:	Wednesday 2 September 2020 – Friday 18 December 2020 <i>Half Term 26 October – 30 October</i>	73 days
Spring Term:	Monday 4 January 2021 – Friday 26 March 2021 <i>Half Term 15 February - 19 February</i>	55 days
Summer Term:	Monday 12 April 2021 – Wednesday 21 July 2021 <i>Half Term 31 May – 4 June, and May Bank Holiday, 3 May</i>	67 days
		195 days