



20 July 2022

Dear Parent or Carer,

**RE: Key information for the start of next term**

As the school year draws to an end, plans and preparations for the new school year are well underway and I am writing to you to provide some key information for September 2022.

**First Day Arrangements**

Year 7 and Year 12 students will return to school on **Tuesday 6 September** with all year groups attending from **Wednesday 7 September**. Our new Year 7 cohort have received a separate letter from Mr Fisher outlining the arrangements for their first day. All year groups will be asked to go their tutor rooms for period 1 on Wednesday 7 September for an extended tutor period. During this time, tutors will welcome students back to school and ensure they fully understand our expectations, routines and procedures. Lessons will start as normal from Period 2.

**Pastoral Arrangements**

We are in the fortunate position to have been able to increase capacity within our pastoral team this academic year, with the appointment of Mr Davidson as Key Stage 3 Director and Mr Hunt as Key Stage 4 Director. They will carry out these roles alongside their respective Head of House responsibilities. We have also been able to recruit Mrs Jude into a full time Anti-bullying Co-ordinator and Wellbeing Officer role. This will ensure that parents and students are kept fully informed of the work that we do to ensure all young people are fully supported in school and will provide additional opportunities for students to take on roles of responsibility through our peer mentor and well-being ambassador schemes. Further information about this work and other key areas of pastoral work will be shared with you through regular parental communications throughout the next academic year. Full details of our pastoral team (and their contact details) can be found in the student planners and on our website.

In September, students in Years 8-11 will remain with their existing Head of Year and Miss Axon will become the Head of Year 7.

**Behaviour for Learning Policy**

We are always keen to make improvements to our processes and practices and, with this mind, we have undertaken a review of our Behaviour for Learning policy with our students and staff. The main amendments are as follows:

- The implementation of a behaviour curriculum that is built around our four cornerstones: care, respect, responsibility and perseverance. Through this curriculum, students will receive regular opportunities to learn about and be reminded of key routines that enable the smooth running of the school
- The expectations have been redesigned to link in with the four cornerstones to help students better understand why the expectations are important and necessary
- A greater emphasis has been placed on rewarding students who consistently make the right decision and meet our school expectations
- We continue with the use of written warnings prior to any formal sanctions so students can respond accordingly. Students who receive behaviour codes in lessons continue to be removed from the classroom for short periods of time to ensure that lessons proceed without disruption.

You can access the full policy on our website [here](#) and these changes will be explained in detail to all students on their return to school in September.

The student planner remains key to our Behaviour for Learning policy and an effective communication tool between home and school. From September, the planner will include a specific area each week which allows parents, carers or school staff to make notes or add comments. This may be useful if you need to get a note to a specific member of staff.

### **Uniform and Equipment**

As you prepare for your child's return to school in September, it is a good time to check your child's uniform and ensure that they start the new academic year with the correct uniform and equipment. All students are expected to return to school in full school uniform, including wearing a tie. If you are unsure of the uniform requirements, you can find the full policy [here](#).

Please do check the uniform policy before making any purchases as we have made adjustments to the policy to ensure it is affordable for all. We have reduced the number of items that are required and have liaised with Drury Sports to offer an embroidery service if you would prefer to purchase items from other retailers.

Please be aware that items of uniform offered by some high street retailers may not meet the requirements for our dress code, even if they are labelled as 'school wear'. If you are in any doubt about the suitability of any item (especially trousers or shoes) please check with your child's Head of Year.

The Driffield School Association are also working closely with the school to offer opportunities through the school year to purchase pre-owned uniform at reasonable prices. With this in mind, if you have any items of uniform that you would like to donate, it will be gratefully received through Ace reception.

### **Good Bye, Thank you and Good Luck**

We would like to take this opportunity to say goodbye, thank you and good luck to staff members leaving us this summer. We would particularly like to mention two long serving members of staff, Anne Stanesby (44.5 years) and James Macey (29 years) who are retiring this summer. They have both worked tirelessly and made a significant difference to the lives of thousands of students during their time at Driffield School; we know they will be very much missed. We are sure you join with us in saying a huge

'thank you' for all they have done and send them our very best wishes for their well-earned retirement.

Finally, we are immensely proud of our students and how hard they have worked during this academic year and we would like to thank all of our parents and carers for their continued support of the school. If you have any particular concerns or questions about your child's return to school in September, please either contact your child's Head of Year or, during the school holidays, contact the school via the following email: [office@driffieldschool.org.uk](mailto:office@driffieldschool.org.uk). Our school reception will be open from 9 am to 2 pm throughout the holidays and between Monday 15 and Friday 19 August the hours will be extended to 3 pm due to our Year 6 Summer School.

We wish you and your families a wonderful summer break.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Ratheram', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mr Scott Ratheram  
Executive Principal