



Thursday, 26 August 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Assalamu alaikum / Peace be with you

Start-of-Year Letter

I hope that you and your family are well and that your child is enjoying a restful summer.

We are really looking forward to welcoming your child to the school in a few days' time.

I am writing to confirm arrangements for the start of the new academic year. Please read the information on the next few pages carefully.

School Opening for the new Academic Year

Following the summer holidays, school will re-open on the following days.

- New Year 7s will start school at 8am on Thursday 2nd September and leave at 3.05pm.
- Year 11 pupils will start school at 1.00pm on Thursday 2nd September and leave at 3.05pm.
- All pupils will be in school Y7, 8, 9, 10 & 11 at 8am on Friday 3rd September and leave at 12.05pm.

School timings will be as follows

- On Monday till Thursday, school will run from 8am till 3.05pm.
- Intervention classes will start at 3.05pm till 4.00pm, pupils and parents will be notified in advance.
- On Friday, school will run from 8am till 12.05pm.
- Friday intervention classes will start at 12.05pm till 1.00pm, pupils and parents will be notified in advance.

COVID arrangements from September

As a result of the successful vaccination programme, the latest Government guidance means that many of the restrictions that applied last year will no longer be in place. However, the school will continue to take steps to minimise the risk of infection. This includes the following:

- Rapid testing has been offered to all pupils before they return to school.
- Pupils will be given rapid home test kits for on going weekly tests.
- There will be increased ventilation in classrooms and enhanced cleaning, including regular disinfection of frequently touched surfaces.
- Pupils will be encouraged to wash hands and use sanitiser regularly.
- Pupils will be allowed to wear a face covering in school.
- If infection rates rise, the school may need to reintroduce restrictions in line with any further government guidance or local Public Health advice.



Pupils who test positive for COVID-19

- Pupils who have one of the 3 main symptoms (persistent cough, high temperature, loss or change of taste/smell) must isolate at home and get a PCR test immediately.
- The result of the test should be shared with the school.
- If a pupil tests positive, they will isolate in line with guidance from NHS Test and Trace.
- Contact tracing will now be completed by NHS Test and Trace rather than the school.
- Pupils identified as close contacts by NHS Test and Trace will not isolate and will continue to attend school if they have no symptoms. Instead of isolating, they will be encouraged to take a PCR test. They will not need to isolate while waiting for the result (if they have no symptoms).

Ongoing Home Testing (Twice a Week)

The Government has asked that pupils continue with twice-weekly testing at home until at least the end of September. At this point, the Government will review the situation and provide additional guidance.

Pupils who agree to home testing will be provided with testing kits for September.

Other Guidance

Please read the guidance on the next few pages and ensure that your child follows each of these expectations. We will share more information with your child when they return to school.

School Uniform

The uniform and appearance of our students reflects our ethos and commitment to the highest standards. Whenever the school uniform is worn, it must be complete and not mixed with non-uniform clothing. Parents should contact our School Uniform retailer (please see details below) in good time over the summer to ensure all items are purchased in time for the start of term. Visit <https://www.stevensons.co.uk/my-account/Register> to login or register a new account with your email address.

Parent Pay & School Lunches

School Meals are provided by our in-house catering company, Chartwells, who offer a break and lunch service. The price per day of a set meal is £2.50 as well as individually priced items to purchase. Parents will need to login in and top-up or register to use our cashless payment system ParentPay. If parents experience any problems setting up or managing their account, members of our school office team will be happy to help during the summer holidays and first week of term. We are unfortunately unable to accept any cash payments for school meals. Do ensure your ParentPay account at www.parentpay.co.uk is sufficiently funded and ready for use on the first day in school, alternatively you will have prepared a healthy pack lunch.



Free School Meals and Pupil Premium Guarantee

Students may be entitled to 'free school meals' if their parents or guardians receive low-income benefits.

This year, the school will make a '**Pupil Premium Guarantee**'. Any student who has registered successfully for 'free school meals will receive:

- Free textbooks and stationery sold at the school
- Subsidised trips and outdoor educational visits upon request made by letter to the Principal

You will be able to claim free school meals for your child if you receive one of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- Income Support
- Income based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

To check your eligibility you will need to access Slough Borough Council's online form (link below) or speak to the school office for assistance.

[Free school meals – Slough Borough Council](#)

Online Lessons

From September, all pupils are expected to be in school and there will be **no online lessons**.

- However, if a pupil has tested positive and is isolating at home, they will be invited to lessons online.
- In such circumstances, pupils will be taught online using Microsoft Teams by their normal teacher in their normal class groupings following their usual timetable. New pupils will be given training on this.

Safety on the Internet

Each year, a small number of our students use the internet at home in an unsafe or harmful way. As a result, it is possible for students to:

- Access pornography or graphic violence
- Engage in harmful conversations with adults pretending to be a teenager
- Send and receive inappropriate images and videos
- Be very tired in school after being on the internet for long periods during the night

Often, this is because parents:

- Have bought their daughter a mobile phone, iPad or laptop before they were responsible enough to understand the risks
- Have not taken steps to ensure that the internet is safe and adequate filters are in place
- Have allowed their daughter to use her device unsupervised, often throughout the night
- Have not understood that an iPad or a laptop can be used in the same way at home as a mobile phone (to make calls, access websites and exchange images and videos)
- Have allowed their daughter to use social networking sites (such as Facebook, Instagram, TikTok and Snapchat) even though they are below the minimum age for these platforms

This is neglectful and puts your daughter and others at risk of great and lasting harm.

It is the responsibility of parents to ensure that they are aware of how their daughter uses the internet (and social networking) at home – and that she uses it in a safe manner. Please:

- Discuss the importance of safer internet use with your daughter
- Take steps to make your daughter safer on the internet, by:
 - ✚ Setting filters to block harmful content
 - ✚ Making sure that your daughter does not have any devices in her bedroom overnight
 - ✚ Only allowing your daughter to use the internet whilst under supervision
 - ✚ Going through the rules about when and how your daughter may use the internet
 - ✚ Thinking carefully whether your daughter is mature enough to have a device of her own
 - ✚ Checking if your daughter is using social networking sites for which she is not yet old enough
 - ✚ Contacting the school if you need advice and support in making the internet at home safer

Pupil ID Badge

Pupils must bring their ID badge to school each day.

- The ID badge will be needed by pupils to confirm their identity, move around the building, access work that they are printing/copying and pay for food in the canteen.
- Pupils must not damage, deface or lose their ID badge.

Expectations of Conduct & Attendance

Establishing and maintaining the highest standards of conduct and attendance is vital to the success of every pupil and integral to our vision and values as a school. In our Ofsted inspection in May 2018 inspectors described the conduct of pupils as ‘impeccable’ and their behaviour as ‘exemplary.’

I would be most grateful if you could reinforce with your daughter the importance of respecting our school rules and values in relation to her conduct, attitude to learning, attendance and punctuality as outlined in the Parent Handbook. We require parents support in ensuring pupils arrive to school on time and arranging any medical appointments and holidays outside of term time and school hours.

Term Dates 2021-2022, Attendance & Holidays During Term Time

Term 1 dates

- **Mid-term closure- Monday 25th October-Friday 29th October 2021**
- **Christmas Holiday- Monday 20th December- Monday 3rd January 2022**

Please find enclosed the full-term dates for the new academic year which reflects the extra day off school for pupils and staff to celebrate HRH The Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June 2022.

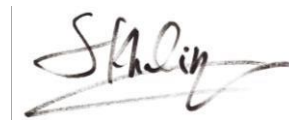
It is very important that students attend school fully. Last year, many students achieved attendance of 99% or higher - missing no more than 1 day from school during the year. Each year, students with the worst attendance make less progress and achieve lower grades in their studies. Therefore, we will insist that students attend school fully and we will visit homes of students with poor attendance alongside the support from the Education Welfare Officer from the Local Authority.

As you know, **the school is not allowed to authorise any trips abroad during term time unless there are exceptional (emergency) circumstances for the student concerned.** Thank you for your support with this.

I would also ask for your prayers for the school and that the Almighty protects each of our children and everyone who works tirelessly on their behalf.

Aameen.

Yours Sincerely,



Sajid Khaliq
Principal

Enclosed: School Term Dates & Holidays 2021-2022



Eden Girls

Eden Girls' School, Slough

SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES

2021 - 2022

(All dates are inclusive)

AUTUMN TERM 2021

Staff Inset Day - 1	Tuesday 31 st August 2021
Staff Inset Day - 2	Wednesday 1 st September 2021
Re-open (for students) on	Thursday 2 nd September 2021
Mid Term Closure	Monday 25 th October - Friday 29 th October 2021
Closure after school on	Friday 17 th December 2021
Christmas Holiday	Monday 20 th December – Monday 3 rd January 2022
Number of openings	72

SPRING TERM 2022

Staff Inset Day - 3	Tuesday 4 th January 2022
Re-open (for students) on	Wednesday 5 th January 2022
Mid Term Closure	Monday 21 st February - Friday 25 th February 2022
Closure after school on	Friday 8 th April 2022
Easter Holiday	Monday 11 th April – Friday 22 nd April 2022
Number of openings	63

SUMMER TERM 2022

Re-open on	Monday 25 th April 2022
May Day Closure	Monday 2 nd May 2022
'Eid ul Fitr 1443 * holiday	Tuesday 3 rd May and Wednesday 4 th May 2022 *
Mid Term Closure	Monday 30 th May - Friday 3 rd June 2022
'Eid ul Adha 1443 * holiday	Monday 11 th July and Tuesday 12 th July 2022 *
Closure after school on	Thursday 21 st July 2022
Number of openings	54
TOTAL NUMBER OF OPENINGS	189

Staff Insets – three full days and four twilight sessions

* Please note – 'Eid holidays may be revised slightly depending upon sighting of the new moon

Revised - July 2021

