



PGW Sixth Form

Partnership of Greenacre & Walderslade

25 August 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we approach the beginning of the new academic year, it is important for us to now prepare you and your son/ward for his return to school. Although Mr Reese's previous letter to you detailed how the 'Skills for Life Trust' will operate safely with specific measures in place which adhere to government guidelines, we hope this letter will contain further helpful information about the timings of the school day, as well as our expectations on your son/ward's return.

WEEK 1:

The new academic year officially begins on Wednesday 2nd September and it is our absolute priority to ensure that students are fully prepared and are communicated with clearly and concisely about the many changes which they are going to experience during their school day. Therefore, we have made the decision to make some adaptations to the timings of the first week of term (Wednesday 2nd September – Friday 4th September ONLY) to ensure that all students are introduced appropriately to the changes that they will face in this new academic year:

Year 12 students will need to be in school on the date and time below:

- Wednesday 2nd September: 10am – 12pm

Year 13 students will need to be in school on the date and time below:

- Wednesday 2nd September: 1pm – 1:45pm

All Sixth Form students will return fully to school from Monday 7th September at 9:45am.

Year 12 will receive a welcome assembly, meet their form tutor, confirm course choices, and be debriefed on the COVID related changes to the schools.

Year 13 will receive a welcome back assembly and be debriefed on the COVID related changes to the schools.

To aid with Greenacre Academy and Walderslade Girl's School staggered start times, PGW lessons will run for students between 9:45am and 3:30pm Monday to Thursday and Friday 9:45am to 2pm.

We do understand that many of our students might be very anxious to return to school, however we would like to reassure you that staff will be on-hand and will be supportive and considerate to all students needs and requirements.

EXPECTATIONS:

As always, we have extremely high expectations of our students, particularly in terms of attendance, uniform and behaviour. Students must be punctual and arrive to the school gates at the times stated above as this will not only ensure that our day starts promptly, but also ensures that good social distancing between year groups is observed. We must remind parents/carers that under no circumstances can you bring your son/ward into the school gates; please feel rest assured that staff will be on-hand to make sure that your son/ward is safe in the school environment.



Greenacre Academy

A Specialist Academy with Sports College & Raising Achievement Status
157 Walderslade Road • Chatham • Kent ME5 0LP
Tel. 01634 861593 office@greenacre.medway.sch.uk
www.greenacre.medway.sch.uk



Walderslade Girls' School

Specialist College for Humanities and the Arts
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PGW uniform remains the same; shirt, tie, trousers, and shoes are required for all students. Football Academy students will wear appropriate sportswear Monday to Thursday and normal PGW uniform on Friday. Engineering and Construction pathway students must wear black cargo/work trousers, a black polo shirt and steel toe capped boots (students received a letter detailing this on our Induction day, if a copy of this letter is required students can collect on Wednesday 2nd September).

Students must be fully equipped for the school day as we cannot hand out equipment to students who have forgotten their stationery. We ask that you please check that your son/ward has his basic equipment with him every day. Your son/ward will, at least, need: a black pen, red pen, pencil, ruler, sharpener, and a rubber. As normal, PGW will be running a full curriculum, which is why we would also recommend your son/ward has further stationery on him to reduce the risk of him using shared equipment.

Without a doubt, your son/ward will notice many changes to his normal school day when he returns after the summer break, which is why we must emphasise the need for him to listen carefully to the new rules and procedures that will be in place. These will be carefully communicated to him on day one of the first week however, as parents, we ask that you speak to your son/ward about the importance of social distancing and good hygiene and how absolutely essential this will be. Students will be mainly based in one zone throughout the duration of the day; therefore, we must prepare students for reduced movement around the school building, outside of their normal break time and lunch time.

FORM TUTOR:

All students within the school will meet their form tutor on their first day and will spend some time with this member of staff going through new timetables, expectations, as well as any new procedures. Your son/ward's form tutor will be your first point of call for any queries you may have.

LUNCHES:

For social distancing and hygiene reasons, we do recommend that students bring their own lunch to school, particularly during the first week back, as well as bring in their own bottle of drink. There will be stations situated around the Academy for students to refill their bottles, however all drink fountains will no longer be in use. The canteen is still available for students to purchase snacks at break time and a meal at lunch time and parents can pre-pay for the canteen via ParentPay. Students who receive a free school meal will still be entitled to this via the canteen and, if any parents now think that they might be entitled to this provision, we do ask that you contact our school office who can support you in this process: office@greenacre.medway.sch.uk

All Sixth Form students have permission to exit the school site at lunchtimes if they return in time for lessons.

Despite the challenges that we have all faced since the outbreak of the pandemic, I do hope that you have had a restful and enjoyable summer break. The new academic year is going to be very different for us all, and we will all have to make many changes to our everyday lives, however, we cannot wait to welcome all of our students safely back to school very soon. It will be fantastic to see all their familiar faces and some new ones.

Kind regards,

Mr Mallia
Head of Sixth Form



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