



16 July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have reached the end of what has been a roller coaster of an academic year for all involved in education, nationally and internationally. Students, parents/carers and school staff have all experienced the lockdown differently but all have felt the pressure and disruption caused by COVID-19. This pandemic, although extremely serious and life changing for many people, has also presented an opportunity for us to pull together to provide the best possible service to our young people and their families. I hope that you feel that the Academy has served you well during lockdown - as usual, I would value your feedback whether positive or otherwise so that we can make sure that we continue to improve.

I would like to formally thank each and every member of staff at Holyrood Academy, who have worked tirelessly to support the students we care for. As is usual at this time of year, we will say 'goodbye' to some members of staff who are moving on to new challenges and we welcome new colleagues to our team. They are:

Leaving	Welcoming
Mrs Sophie Annabi	Miss Kayleigh Armstrong - PE
Miss Ellie Cummings	Miss Annabelle Blackmore - Maths
Mr Joel Clarke	Mr Rob Crocker - Deputy Head / RS
Mrs Claudine Savage	Mrs Eleanor Delaney - RS
Mr Neil Robins	Mr Andrew Easton - IT
Miss Jemima Farey	Miss Naomi Robinson - English
Mrs Claire Berry	Ms Helen Wall - Head of Year 8 / Science
Mrs Kate Cumberland	Mr Matthew Walker-Jones - Head of Year 9 / PE
Mr Jason Swarbrick	Mrs Kat Wilsher - English
Ms Pauline Lamond	Miss Natalie Wilsher - Head of Music
Mr Andrew Gilham	Mrs Jemma Wilson - Art
	Ms Sarah Rose - Teaching Assistant

Address

**Zembard Lane
Chard, Somerset
TA20 1JL**

Contact

**Tel: 01460 260100
Fax: 01460 260149**

Email

**sch.517@educ.
somerset.gov.uk**

Web

**www.holyrood
academy.com**

Headteacher

Dave MacCormick
B.Sc Hons, M.Ed, MRes

Senior Deputy Head

Sam Davison
BA Hons, MA

Deputy Head

Claire Berry
BA Hons

Business Manager

Tina Coles
DSBM

Assistant Headteacher

Joanne James
BA Hons

Assistant Headteacher

Greg Ireland
B.Sc



Many parents and students will have questions about what coming back to school in September will look, and feel, like. I would like to provide some clarity before the summer holiday regarding our plans for full reopening in September and I will write to parents of each year group on or after 20th August 2020 to confirm all details regarding our plans for individual year groups. For now, I can be clear about the following, subject to the national or local picture remaining as it is now:

We intend to teach all lessons to all students following the normal school timetable. All students will have access to all of their timetabled lessons, but practical lessons will be limited in some subjects such as D&T and Science.

Year 7 and 8 will form one 'bubble' and will be taught predominantly on Lower Site (with the exception of D&T, Art, Music and PE lessons).

Year 9 will form a separate 'bubble' and will be taught predominantly on Upper Site (with the exception of some Drama lessons) and this year group will take their break times at different times to the other 'bubbles' to keep everyone safe.

Year 10 and 11 will form a separate 'bubble' and will be taught predominantly on Upper Site (with the exception of some Drama lessons).

Year 12 and 13 will form a separate 'bubble' and will be taught predominantly on Upper Site (with the exception of some Performing Arts lessons).

Students will move between classrooms for their different lessons and when this happens, I will be asking teachers to finish teaching slightly early to oversee a 'wipe down' of the classrooms, to ensure that it is ready for the next class to use. This is one of several enhanced cleaning measures in place across the Academy to keep everyone safe. I will detail each of these in my letters in August.

Students will have their social times in designated areas of the school.

Clearly, there will be a lot of questions about how this will be delivered and the arrangements around break times, arrival and departure, assemblies and many more issues. We are working through the details of these key issues in collaboration with Uffculme Academy Trust and our Health & Safety advisors. However, I felt it was important to share the skeleton of this plan with you as soon as possible so that you can begin to process with your child how it will feel and work.

As of the beginning of the academic year, the Government has been clear that expectations of school attendance return to what they were pre-COVID. If you are concerned about your child returning to school, please discuss this with us following my letters in August which will provide the fine detail of the plans in place to keep the return to school safe. You have my unwavering commitment to doing what is best for our community and that includes not only the provision of an excellent education, but keeping everyone safe too.

Similarly, our expectations of uniform remain as they were and you can find full details here:

<https://www.holyroodacademy.com/academy/parentscarers/uniform/32/>

I wish you all a happy and restful summer and look forward to welcoming Years 7 and 12 back to school on Tuesday 8th September and all other years back on Wednesday 9th September.

The Academy is closed for staff training on Monday 7th September when the staff will focus their learning upon how we can safeguard our students, promote their mental health and look after their wellbeing.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dave MacCormick', written in a cursive style.

Dave MacCormick
Headteacher