

SCHOOL NEWS 10 SEPTEMBER 2020



Dear Parents and Carers

MESSAGE FROM MR PANAYIOTOU

I would like to extend my warmest welcome to all of our new Year 7 students, parents and carers and I would like to commend them on how well they have all settled in. I am looking forward to seeing how they grow and develop over the next 5 years.

Thank you to all who have attended our Welcome Evenings for your specific year group, these have been invaluable for outlining our plans and have given the opportunity for parents to meet new form tutors. We are looking forward to the Year 8 and 9 Welcome Evenings taking place next week.

We have put many systems in place in order for us to be open and operational, a huge thank you must go to all of our students, staff and yourself for providing the feedback and support we have needed to enable this to happen. We will constantly review our systems and ensure that we adhere to guidelines set by Public Health England and DfE. If we need to make changes, we will communicate these to you as soon as they are available.

I would also like to take the opportunity to note and celebrate our excellent results from the Summer GCSEs of the class of 2020. The school's progress 8 score continues to improve, the class of 2020 achieved a progress 8 score of +0.64. This means on average, students achieved over half a grade better than their aspirational target grade. Considering the Government target is 0, this represents a phenomenal effort from staff and especially students. We are also extremely proud that 74% of our students secured a pass in English and Maths.

We will all be able to appreciate the challenges that faced the class of 2020, I am proud and delighted our students achieved the outcomes that they deserved and can go onto college or apprenticeships. A huge congratulations to all and we look forward to hearing about their successes in the near future.

We are planning to hold an open evening for current Year 6 students, which will allow appropriately grouped tours of the school. This will take place on Thursday 24th September at 15:30 – 20:00 with an Open Day taking place on Saturday 26th September between 9am and 13.15pm. These will offer opportunities to hear from myself and have tours of the school and the facilities we offer. I hope you can appreciate that we will have a limited opportunity to showcase our school, however there will be additional opportunities to explore our school online. More information will be sent to our feeder schools and will also be available on our website before the end of this week.

Finally, it has been a gigantic effort to get us all back to school and I am so proud of how all of our students have conducted themselves, with many new procedure we have had to put in place, they have done so very acceptingly and this is a real testament to our Worthing High School community. A revised Behaviour Policy has been produced and we urge all parents and carers to read the full document thoroughly. It is located on our school website:

<https://www.worthinghigh.net/page/?title=Policy+Documents&pid=14>

Thank you for your continued support and I look forward to seeing you all in the very near future.

PAN PANAYIOTOU
HEADTEACHER

IMPORTANT MESSAGE REGARDING TIKTOK APP

There is an extremely upsetting and highly graphic video, currently trending on the TikTok App, of an adult live-streaming themselves taking their own life.

Whilst TikTok have stated that they are doing their best to remove the video, it has been shared across all social media platforms thousands of times under fake captions which means the video is seen accidentally.

Some captions on TikTok are as trivial as “look at the pasta I cooked tonight” before the video then plays, so the young people can come across the video without even searching for it.

We cannot emphasise enough that this video is extremely distressing and we urge young people, parents and carers to avoid the TikTok App whilst this video is in such high circulation.

If you have any further questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact your student’s pastoral leader.

Mr Swift and Mr Earle
Designated Safeguarding Leads

Year 7 PGL Trip Saturday 19 September 2020

As we announced at the Year 7 information evening earlier this week, the venue for the Y7 trip has changed to PGL Marchants Hill near Hinehead and it will be a one day event only.

Marchants Hill PGL centre is a great venue and students will all complete 4 x 1.5h activities in groups on no more than 15 including: Climbing, Sensory Trail, Challenge Course and Trapeze.

Each group will have a WHS staff member with them at all times. A programme and more details regarding clothing expectations etc will be issued to you shortly.

Just to help with your own initial arrangements here are the travel details:

- all students should arrive in the north playground (via St Lawrence Avenue) by 7am. Please note we will have 4 coaches parked outside schools so please avoid the area if you are driving. Bikes can be left in the bike sheds.
- Students will be back in school at approx. 17.45-18.00 and can be met in the main school carpark area – no cars will be permitted to access the school site I am afraid.

Lunch is being provided by PGL but students are welcome to bring their own additional healthy snacks but they must take all their rubbish home.

Stuart Townsend
Year 7 Progress Leader

STUDENT ARRIVAL AT SCHOOL

Many thanks to parents for supporting us with our staggered entry times into school this week. We wanted to communicate a change which will take effect from Monday 14th September. We would still like students to adhere to the staggered entry times where possible but will be opening the St

Lawrence Avenue gates and student entrance on South Farm Road from 8am. This is to allow those parents who are having significant difficulties with getting students to school for the staggered times.

Any student coming into school between 8am and their staggered entry time must report to the following year group social area, washing their hands as they enter and follow the one-way system.

Year group	Social zone from 8am until entry time	Entry time
7	LRC	8.25-8.30am
8	PE Area (covered canopy)	8.25-8.30am
9	B Corridor	8.30-8.35am
10	Science Block	8.30-8.35am
11	T corridor and M block	8.35-8.40am

Please note that on their assembly days, students may also wait in the Millennium Hall from 8am.

Day	Assembly
Monday	Year 11
Tuesday	Year 10
Wednesday	Year 9
Thursday	Year 8
Friday	Year 7

Please may I also remind students that they can access the LRC at break, lunch and after school until 5pm on their assembly day.

YEAR 11 MOCK EXAMS – OCTOBER 2020

Details about the mock exams will be shared in a separate year 11 communication.

WELCOME EVENINGS

Thank you to our year 7, 10 and 11 parents, carers and students who attended our welcome evenings. It was great to see so many of you there and give you an outline of the year ahead.

Next week, we look forward to welcoming year 8 and 9 parents, carers and students at slightly different times. Apologies for the changes, this is to give our facilities team enough time afterwards to clean in preparation for the next school day. The first session will now start at 6pm, the second at 6:45pm, except for ERI's tutor which will begin at 5:30. Details of entrance points and venues are in the timetable below.

A more detailed email will be sent to all year 8 and 9 parents tomorrow.

Time and Venue	Year 8 Monday 14th September	Year 9 Tuesday 15th September	Enter via
6:00-6:30 Millennium Hall	SOZ	MHU	Hall doors
6:45-7:15 Millennium Hall	TMI	SYG	
6:00-6:30 - Drama studio	JGA	CCO	Student entrance
6:45-7:15 - Drama studio	DSA	JPE	
5:30-6:45 - Sports Hall		ERI	Double doors next to hall
6:00-6:30 - Sports Hall	SUD	CFA	
6:45-7:15 - Sports Hall	GWJ	MKO	
6:00-6:30 - LRC	AST	MBK	Main reception
6:45-7:15 - LRC	EPE	CBR	

INSIGHT AND SHOW MY HOMEWORK LOG IN DETAILS

Show my Homework has changed its name to Satchelone. Log in details for Insight and Show my Homework for all year 7 parents will be going out next week.

REMINDER

FOOD, DESIGN AND ART LESSONS

Students must provide their own apron for Food, Design and Art lessons due to Covid 19 regulations

CHANGE OF EQUIPMENT LIST

Due to the current restrictions on the shared use of school headphones, we would be grateful if all students could bring in a set of headphones as part of their day to day school equipment kit.

Headphones are often used lessons where computers are used and the packages the students are accessing have an audio requirement. They just need to have a standard audio jack (as per the below picture).



MESSAGE FROM STUDENT SERVICES

Parents and carers are encouraged not to bring in items during the day for students (such as lunch and kit) student equipment e.g large instruments/sports kit etc. cannot be dropped off by students or parents in the day.

ASSEMBLIES

Please click on the following link to see our assemblies for this term. [Assemblies](#)

STUDENT PHOTOGRAPHS

Individual student photographs are due to be taken on Tuesday 15 September by Van Cols Ltd. Proof copies of the photographs will be sent home via the students when they are delivered to the school and they will be available to purchase on line or via the proof envelope provided. **All students to attend school wearing school uniform as PE/Performing Arts lessons will be suspended on this day.**

LRC NEWSLETTER

Please click on the following link to view the September [LRC Newsletter](#)

Year 11 College Open Day/Evening Information

Varndean College in Brighton Open Day/Evening events

Open Day - Saturday 26th September 11am - 3pm:

Varndean hope that this Open Day will go ahead as planned, but in order to do so it will be subject to stringent health & safety measures in line with Government Covid-19 guidance. A pre-booking system will need to be in operation so that they can manage the number of visitors on site at any one time.

International Baccalaureate Diploma Information Talk- Thursday 15th October 6.30pm - 7.45pm

This event will be held online. Further details to follow in due course.

Open Evenings - Tuesday 20th & Wednesday 21st October - Times to be confirmed

More details on these events to follow.

For up to date information on these events please check their website <https://varndean.ac.uk/>

A Guide to the application process can also be found on their website. Please note however that online applications to apply to Varndean College for September 2021 will not open until late September 2020.

Students are also able to take a Virtual 360 Tour using the following link

<https://varndean.ac.uk/videos>

The priority deadline for applications is: **Friday 4th December 2020**

VACANCIES AT WORTHING HIGH SCHOOL

We advertise staff vacancies on our website under [Join Us/Vacancies](#). Please take the time to have a look and share the information with anybody you know who might be interested in applying.

TWITTER

For up to date information don't forget to follow us on the links below:

Whole School: @WorthingHigh

Headteacher: @WorthingHigh_ht

Trips: @worthinghighout

Worthing High Careers and Employability Service: @WorthingHighCar

Lettings: @HighLettings

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 14th Sept – Welcome to Year 8 parent meeting

Tuesday 15th Sept – Welcome to Year 9 parent meeting

Thursday 17th Sept - students early departure by 13.30

Saturday 19th Sept – Year 7 year group trip to PGL Hinehead

Thursday 24th September – students early departure by 12.30

Friday 25th September – school closed to students INSET Day

Monday 12th October – Year 11 Mocks start

October half term Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October.

Term dates for the 2020/2021 academic years are available on our website. Link below:

[Term dates 2020/2021](#)