

24<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

#### Term 5 updates:

We have had a very positive term 5 here at Seahaven Academy and have been delighted with how determined and ambitious our students have been. We are all very conscious that the periods of school closure/lockdown over the last 12 months have been very different for each student and family. It has been lovely to finally have another term with the whole school back together on site and the opportunity to get on with most aspects of school life, and most importantly, make up for any lost learning time.

As we head into term 6 and the end of this extraordinary academic year, we will be able to make some further small changes and start to prepare for September:

#### Uniform

### PE sweatshirts

This year we took a temporary decision to allow students to wear their black PE sweatshirts under (not instead of) their blazers to compensate for needing to keep more windows open in the winter months. Although there is a school jumper (grey with an orange stripe), we were concerned some students would not be able to get these during the lockdown period so permitted the use of PE sweatshirts as well.

• From term 6 onwards, PE sweatshirts will only be worn in PE returning to our usual uniform policy.

## Arrival to school in PE kit

A small number of classes have been allowed to arrive in their PE kit for morning lessons in order to keep use of the PE changing rooms to a minimum. However, we no longer need to do this, as students are able to move around the school more and year 11 leave in June, which will reduce demand on our facilities.

• From term 6 onwards, all students will arrive in full school uniform each day and change for PE on site.

## Correct uniform:

We have a very smart, practical and cost-effective uniform. Students generally wear it very well and we have far fewer issues with uniform than in many schools. If you need, any support either getting hold of an item of uniform or affording new uniform, please do not hesitate to contact the year group Pastoral Leader and we will help you with this.

Please be aware that the uniform policy does not include trainers (students need formal school shoes) or hoodies (grey school jumpers only from term 6 onwards) either in school or on the way to/ from school.



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## Homework/ Keep Up Catch Up

The majority of homework is set on Satchel One (Show My Homework) and through the subject specific websites such as Sparx (Maths) and LanguageNut. Students need to ensure that they check the homework set each night and complete it by the due date. Homework, which is not completed on time, must be done as quickly as possible to ensure there is no further loss of recall/revision and new learning. To support students in completing their homework on time, and also allowing them to catch up as quickly as possible if there has been an issue, we operate a 'Keep Up, Catch Up' session after school until 4pm. Please encourage your young person to take advantage of this support.

Students who do not complete homework and do not take advantage of the support on offer during the week will find themselves in detention on Fridays with senior members of staff. We have found previously that this is a very effective deterrent!

Mondays and Wednesdays: Years 8 and 10

Tuesdays and Thursday: Years 7, 9 and 11

# **Teaching in specialist rooms**

In term 6, staff will be returning to teaching in their subject rooms. We have gradually had more and more lessons being taught in specialist rooms as the year has progressed and as the transmission of Covid-19 has reduced. This has been in order to ensure that the curriculum has had the least amount of disruption we can safely manage.

We will be retaining separate entrances, exits and zoned areas for tutor bases, as these have had a very positive impact on the smooth running of the school. We will also keep the staggered breaks and lunches in term 6 but hope to be able to return to a single break and lunch in September.

As always, please do contact us if you have any queries or questions or need any further support.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Pringle Headteacher