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**CAISTER  
ACADEMY**  
*Creative  
Education  
Trust*

Thursday 26 August 2021

Dear Parent

## **September 2021 - Update 2**

I hope you have been enjoying a wonderful summer.

Following my letter of 22 July, I am writing to provide additional information for our return to school in September.

*The first update letter can be found at <https://www.caisteracademy.org.uk/letters-newsletters/>. This contained information on the following:*

- *Rationale*
- *Year Group Bubbles*
- *Structure of the Academy Day*
- *Return to School Dates*
- *Transport to and from School*
- *New Staff*
- *End of Term*

## **Lateral Flow Testing Prior to Student Return**

During the summer holiday, you should have received information and a link to give or update your consent for lateral flow tests. This week, you should receive a separate email, either providing the appointment times for your child to attend school for their tests, or confirming that you have not consented. If you have not received these emails, please contact Louise King, Assistant Principal for Operations, at [louise.king@caisteracademy.org.uk](mailto:louise.king@caisteracademy.org.uk), who will be able to support.

## **Form Groups**

For consistency, the majority of students will move up a year with their previous form tutor. Where this has not been possible due to staffing changes, groups have been assigned to a new form tutor. A full list of form groups and their rooms is enclosed.

New Year 7 parents will receive confirmation of their child's form group in a separate email next week.

## **First Day Back**

We are excited to be welcoming students back to school as normal on the dates communicated in my previous update. These are:

- Monday 6 September – Year 11
- Tuesday 7 September – Year 7 and Year 10
- Wednesday 8 September – Year 8 and Year 9

Once on site, students should arrive at their form rooms ready to start the day at 8.40am.

Because students will not be used to moving around the whole site, there will be staff available to meet students as they arrive, and direct them to the correct classroom.

## **Uniform and Equipment**

There have been **no changes** to the uniform and equipment expectations for September. Full details of these can be found at <https://www.caisteracademy.org.uk/home/about/uniform-and-equipment/>. For ease of reference, the equipment list is enclosed. Please note that students should bring PE kit to school for **both** PE and dance. Parents of students who have either PE or dance on their first day will receive a text in advance.

Face coverings are not currently required.

We will be reviewing all elements of our uniform for September 2022. This will be done well in advance and any significant changes staggered, so there is the opportunity to take parent and student feedback prior to making final decisions, and so parents can plan ahead. Further details of this will follow in the Autumn term.

## **Lockers**

All lockers are now in the area outside the Sports Hall. They have been renumbered, so students who had a locker last year will be able to access them following reallocation in form time on the first day back.

Students without a locker may request one using the same system as before. This is through paying a £10 refundable deposit via parent pay. Once the deposit has been made, the student will be contacted by Mr Russen, Finance Officer, who will assign them their locker. Students will need to bring a padlock to school for this. Please note that padlocks on unassigned lockers will be removed.

## **New Staff**

In addition to the new colleagues introduced in my previous letter, I am delighted to share that we have appointed an outstanding Performing Arts Coach, Oliver Tibble, to join the Performing Arts Faculty. Mr Tibble's appointment will provide even more opportunities for students within dance, drama and music, including ballet, aerial hoop and the formation of the Caister Performing Arts Company. I look forward to sharing more information on these opportunities, and details of our Christmas Showcase once we return to school.

We also say goodbye to a colleague, Andrea Fordham, Teacher of Science, at the end of this month. I am sure you will join me in thanking Mrs Fordham for her work within the science department, and wishing her all the best for the future.

## **Sensible Hygiene Measures**

Although we are no longer subject to the same coronavirus restrictions as last year, we will continue to promote a number of sensible hygiene measures in order to keep staff and students safe. These will be explained to students at the start of term and include:

- Facecoverings – These are not currently required in school, however, students and staff may continue to wear them if they wish to do so.
- Sensible interactions – Students will be reminded of the importance of being thoughtful towards other students or staff who may feel vulnerable and maintaining space through appropriate communication where necessary.

- Cleaning – We employed additional day time cleaning staff last year and are keeping these colleagues in place. Alongside the responsible behaviour of students, these colleagues will enable us to continue to ensure the school is kept in excellent condition throughout the day.
- Handwashing and sanitation facilities – All handwashing stations, sanitation gel dispensers and access to wet wipes are being kept in place. Students will be reminded of the importance of good hygiene, especially before and after meal times.
- Classroom refurbishment – A number of our classrooms have been refurbished over the summer holidays. This work has included the removal of unnecessary equipment and storage furniture to increase space and further improve ventilation within rooms.
- Microsoft Teams – Staff will continue to use Microsoft Teams for some meetings, to reduce unnecessary close contact interactions.

Should the local or national situation change in regard to coronavirus restrictions, we will write to you to update you with any changes.

## **Site Updates**

It has been an exciting and busy summer on site at Caister, with our Regional Facilities Manager, Luke Delderfield, and Assistant Principal for Operations, Louise King, overseeing significant site developments to add to those made last summer. These transformative improvements have been made with the support of Creative Education Trust, and represent the Trust's continued investment in the future of the school.

All colleagues involved have worked incredibly hard and as I write, we are just one week away from being ready to reopen with the following developments:

- Full refurbishment and reequipping of Art, Engineering 1, Engineering 2 and Computing 1.
- Refurbishment of the Drama Studio, History 1, Languages 1, Languages 2 and Music 1.
- Completed installation of Promethean touchscreen teaching boards in every classroom.
- Continued roll out of upgrades to corridors through new ceilings, energy efficient LED lighting, redecoration and fire doors.
- Installation of a new school bell system with softer tones and greater flexibility.
- Removal of the two mobile classrooms at the front of school, installation of new fencing and gates, and creation of additional parking spaces.
- Creation of a new upstairs corridor in the science and history area, linking the two sets of stairs and allowing for a safer and orderly one-way system to be established.
- Creation of a new exit between the drama studio and modern foreign languages, to allow for a one-way system to be established in that area.

In addition to this major work, there have been several smaller changes made throughout the school that will further improve the learning environment for students. We look forward to having the opportunity to welcome you into school in the new term, to tour and see all of the changes made over the last year and a half.

## **Caister Academy, School of Literature and Performing Arts**

I would like to finish with the exciting news that when we welcome students back to school from Monday 6 September, it will be as an Academy formally specialising in literature and the performing arts.

In line with our core values of ambition, opportunity, character and community, the formal recognition of literature and performing arts will allow us to bring additional resources to the academy and further promote these areas of excellence. This is a designation similar to that previously held by the school, with English, dance, drama and music at Caister already recognised as leading subjects within the area. Therefore, these formal specialisms will complement, rather than replace existing provision.

As we begin the new academic year, I look forward to sharing further details of the additional opportunities these specialisms will provide; from new facilities and resources, to academic and enrichment opportunities, student scholarships, and collaborations with external groups and providers.

It is an exciting time to be a part of Caister Academy. On behalf of all staff, I look forward to welcoming students back in just over a week, and continuing to work with you to ensure every student attending Caister reaches their full potential.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ben Driver', with a small flourish at the end.

Ben Driver  
Principal

Enclosed: Form Groups and Classrooms  
Equipment List

## Form Groups – September 2021

*Student's old form reads across to their new form.*

Old Form	New Form	Form Tutor	Classroom
<b>Year 7</b>			
-	7CBL	Mr Blackburn, Teacher of Geography	Geography 2
-	7GCR	Mrs Crosson, Teacher of Mathematics	Mathematics 5
-	7JYA	Mrs Yaxley, Teacher of English	English 2
-	7RAK	Miss Atkinson, Teacher of Art	Art
-	7SMA	Miss Mallett, Teacher of History	History 2
-	7SWA	Mr Warner, Teacher of Science	Science 6
<b>Year 8</b>			
7JDE	8JDE	Miss Delf, Second in English	English 7
7MBA	8MBA	Miss Barwood, Teacher of English	English 4
7NPA	8NPA	Miss Partouns, Teacher of Modern Foreign Languages	Languages 1
7PMC	8PMC	Ms McGill, Teacher of Mathematics	Mathematics 1
7SSH	8SSH	Miss Sharpe, Head of Performing Arts	Music 2
7ZJA	8ZJA	Miss Jackman, Teacher of Physical Education	Computing 2
<b>Year 9</b>			
8NLA	9AEV	Mr Evans, Teacher of Ethics & PSHE	Ethics 1
8LSE	9HHY	Mrs Hyde, Teacher of Catering & Business	Catering
8IBI	9IBI	Miss Bird, Teacher of Mathematics	Mathematics 2
8RWD	9RWD	Mrs Wood, Head of Modern Foreign Languages	Languages 2
8SBU	9SBU	Mrs Butcher, Teacher of Mathematics	Mathematics 4
8AFR	9SWE	Mrs Weihser, Teacher of Music	Music 1
<b>Year 10</b>			
9AMC	10AMC	Mr McMillan, Head of Physical Education	Computing 1
9AVN	10AVN	Miss Vanner, Teacher of English	English 5
9DMI	10DMI	Miss Mileham, Second in Science	Science 3
9GJE	10GJE	Mr Jepp, Teacher of Mathematics	Mathematics 6
9AFR	10MKN	Mr Knapp (Mr Brown), Teacher of Science	Science 2
9PEV	10PEV	Ms Everett, Teacher of Drama	Drama
<b>Year 11</b>			
10MKN	11ALU	Mrs Lumley, Teacher of Science	Science 5
10MTH	11DMC	Mrs McMillan, Head of History	History 1
10WJA	11KCR	Mr Cromwell, Head of Geography	Geography 1
10AEV	11MKI	Mrs King, Teacher of English	English 1
10MMA	11MMA	Miss Mason, Teacher of Engineering	Engineering 2
10CCA	11NBA	Mr Barker, Teacher of Mathematics	General 2

## Equipment List

Students will need to bring the following equipment to school and this will be checked by form tutors on a daily basis:

- School bag
- Pencil case, containing;
  - Black pen(s)
  - Purple pen(s)<sup>(1)</sup>
  - Highlighter
  - Pencil(s)
  - Eraser
  - Pencil sharpener
  - Glue stick
  - Safe scissors (rounded ends)
  - 15 or 30cm ruler
  - Protractor
  - Pair of compasses
- Scientific calculator (Casio FX-83GTX, FX-85GTX, FX-83GT Plus or FX-85GT Plus recommended)<sup>(1)</sup>
- Reading book (personal or library issued)<sup>(2)</sup>
- PE kit, as specified in the uniform policy, for all PE and dance lessons and after school sports clubs
- Water bottle

<sup>(1)</sup>*These will be available to purchase through Parent Pay in the first weeks of term.*

<sup>(2)</sup>*Students will have the opportunity to take a reading book from the Library in the first week of term.*

If the government defines Caister as a local outbreak area, or at the Principal's discretion, students will also need:

- Face covering (plain or patterned, without obvious motifs or branding)
- *It is recommended that students have this items ready at home due to the short notice provided in the event of local changes.*