



DEPTFORD GREEN SCHOOL  
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Friday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to you at the end of our first full week in school this academic year. It has been a great pleasure to see all our students back in school under more normal circumstances. Now that the bubbles have been disbanded students are able to travel between classrooms and use specialist rooms for all their lessons and will be able to attend enrichment clubs and visits very soon. Watch this space for the timetable coming soon.

Our Year 7's have made a fantastic start to their learning journeys here at Deptford Green and have been turning up every day looking incredibly smart and raring to go showing huge enjoyment in their lessons. It has also been really pleasing to see so many LORIC points being awarded already across the school with Year 7 steaming ahead with **8361** at the last count on Thursday.

With the start of a new year and our drive to ensure we maintain the high expectations of all members of the school community it is important that I share a few key reminders so that there is no confusion.

**Punctuality:** Being on time for each day is vitally important- not only for us as a school so that learning time is not lost, but we also believe this is an important life skill for all our students to master. Please see the table below for your child's start time each day.

Year group	Start time	Gates closes at...
7 & 8	9am	8:55am
9 & 10	9:40am	9:35am
11	10:20am	10:15am

**Uniform:** I have been proud of how smart our students have looked each day this week. Please remember to consult the uniform policy on the school website to check that your child is wearing the correct uniform.

**Jewellery/make up/hair colouring:** One small stud on each ear is allowed and no other facial piercings. False eyelashes should not be worn, and hair dye must not be extreme. Acrylic nails are not permitted, and nail varnish must be a neutral colour.

Our pastoral team will be carrying out daily uniform and equipment checks each morning and awarding LORIC points for our students who demonstrate excellence in this area.

**Communication:** We are excited to be launching our new website this week and will be updating it regularly with important information. We will also be publishing our newsletter fortnightly, please do check this regularly as not only will we be sharing student success but also highlighting key information in this publication. Your child's Head of year will be writing to you at the end of next week outlining key dates and sharing additional reminders. The vast majority of our communication





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with our families is entirely positive and productive, however on rare occasions our staff have had to suffer abusive and aggressive language and behaviour from some parents. Please can I remind you that if you do have a concern or complaint that you share this information in a calm and measured way so that we can work in partnership with you to resolve the issue.

**Afternoon tea & chat:** I will be hosting regular afternoon tea sessions for all parents to attend with an open forum to discuss school-based issues and receive your feedback on our systems and processes. The first session will be held on **Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> September from 4:30-5:30pm**. If you are interested in attending, please contact the school office to book your space.

**Covid safe:** Please continue to test your child at home twice a week and follow the most recent guidance on isolation. If your child displays symptoms, please keep them at home until they have had a negative PCR test.

**Homework:** We are planning to review and improve our homework policy this term. Soon we will be publishing a HW schedule alongside a homework task booklet for Key stage 3 classes. In the meantime, please work with your child to look on Teams to check the HW that has been set and support them to complete it to a high standard and on time.

**Staggered day:** We will be sending a link on Monday to a parent survey to gather your feedback on the current stagger to start and finish times. Please can I urge you all to complete the survey as your feedback is important to us.

Finally, this year we have introduced our 'Above and beyond' postcards. If your child comes home waving one of these at you then please congratulate them as this means they have stood out to their teachers in a really positive way.

I look forward to meeting many of you over the coming weeks and am excited to continue sharing with you our many student successes in the future.

Yours faithfully

Emma Thurston

