



28 January 2022

Message from the Head of School

Dear parents and carers

This week I have been enjoying visiting students in their lessons. I have observed them carrying out science practicals, learning about different directions in French, simultaneous equations based on the McDonald's menu and re-enacting historic battles with swimming pool noodles!

It is always pleasing to see the variety of learning activities that take place every day in school. And students are always keen to share their learning experiences with me.

Mr Whear updated you last week on the school's position on the wearing of face coverings following the government's latest announcement. I understand that schools across the country are adopting different positions on this issue, so it is important that I share with you the reasons behind our decision making process.

Head of School Coffee Mornings

With the easing of restrictions, we are now able to offer parents and carers the opportunity to meet with Mr Brewster in small groups to gain parent views on certain topics and share some of our future plans. These weekly sessions will commence on Tuesday 8 February, 10.00–11.00am.

Details of how to book, via Eventbrite, will be shared next week and will also be posted on the website.

Y11 GCSE Revision Sessions

Parents and carers of Y11 students have been sent separate communications regarding additional after-school support sessions. These include English, Maths, Science, French and German. Please encourage your child to attend, wherever possible.

Car Park

May we respectfully remind all parents and carers who drop off and collect their children by car, that the school site is restricted for safety reasons while the school buses are on site during the morning and evening periods.

This means that access is limited between 8.30am and 9.00am, and again from 3.15pm to 4.00pm.

Please note this restriction does not apply to parents/carers who would normally have access to disabled parking spaces.

Since returning from the Christmas break, the number of new confirmed COVID cases has remained relatively stable at between 27 and 39 cases per week. This includes staff and students. Given the size of our school community, this number is relatively low. There is no doubt that the measures we have put in place, including good standards of hygiene, together with the vaccine take up, have played a part in the position we are now in.

I would like to reassure parents and carers that case rates are monitored daily and, in light of the data to hand, the decision on face coverings is regularly reviewed.

If cases begin to rise, I will re-consider the decision and communicate this to you. So, please be prepared for the possibility that the use of face coverings may be reinstated at short notice.

Best wishes

David Brewster
Head of School

Debate Club

Attention all speakers and arguers! A new weekly Debate Club, open to all year groups across both lunchtimes, will commence on Wednesday 9 February in A1.1.

If you would like to sign up, or have any suggestions on debating topics, please contact Miss Leadon or Miss Bird.

GDPR Update

The government has requested schools take part in a trial to provide real-time data from their registers to help the Department of Education (DfE) understand and manage absence trends.

The DfE will manage the data collected in compliance with data protection laws, and the Department's own data protection policies.

Daily student attendance data will be automatically extracted from the school's management information system, including personal details such as name, address, date of birth etc.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school's Data Protection Officer via data.protection@schoolschoice.org if you have any queries or concerns.

The Household Support Grant

Suffolk County Council has received further government funding to support families and individuals in most need of food, assistance with energy and water bills and other essential costs.

Parents and carers of students in receipt of Free School Meals will receive a discretionary grant to help with costs during the school holidays. A £15 Edenred supermarket voucher will be issued for each eligible student via the email address that the school holds for you. Please ensure that contact details are up-to-date.

The voucher will be issued on Friday 18 February and must be spent before the expiry date. Failure to do so will mean you cannot be reimbursed. Please contact Mrs Wooldridge via accounts@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk for further information.

Attendance up to 28 January 2022:

Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11	Overall
91.5%	91.4%	89.9%	88.6%	91.1%	90.5%

Diary dates

February:

Wednesday 2nd:	GCSE Artist Workshop Y11 Parents' Evening
Friday 4th:	Y9 Reports shared with parents and carers
Wednesday 9th:	Y9 Parents' Evening
Wednesday 16th:	6th Form Open Evening

March:

Wednesday 7th:	Y7 Parents' Evening
Wednesday 16th – Friday 18th	<i>Matilda</i> Production
Friday 18th	Y12 Reports shared with parents and carers
Wednesday 30th:	Y8 Parents' Evening

Contact Details:

Main School:	01449 674827 (08.30am - 4.00pm)
Pastoral emails:	year7@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk
	year8@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk
	year9@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk
	year10@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk
	year11@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk
	sixthform@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk
General:	enquiries@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk
Cashless catering:	accounts@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk
Library:	library@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk
Attendance:	attendance@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk
Absence Line:	01449 742428
Website:	www.stowuplandhighschool.co.uk

Term Dates 2021- 2022		Half Term	Non Student Days
Autumn Term 2021	2nd September - 16th December	25th - 29th Oct	2nd September 3rd September
Spring Term 2022	4th January - 8th April	21st - 25th Feb	26th November 4th January
Summer Term 2022	25th April - 22nd July	30th May - 3rd June	22nd July

Church Road Stowupland Stowmarket IP14 4BQ

Executive Headteacher: Mr Peter Whear; Head of School: Mr David Brewster

Chair of Local Board: Mrs Karen Hudson