



1 April 2022

## Message from the Executive Headteacher

Dear parents and carers

I hope you and your loved ones are safe and well. I'm writing this letter on 1 April, April Fools' Day. As you know from previous newsletters, I like to talk about the weather. And it seems the weather is playing tricks on us at the moment, doesn't it. Last week, we enjoyed glorious, warm spring sunshine and today, it is snowing and blowing a gale!

### Year 11 mock exams

Year 11 students finished their final set of mock exams on Monday. Over the past couple of weeks, teachers have been busy marking the mock papers and returning grades to students to help them prepare for the "real things" after Easter. Next week, we will be writing to parents and carers of Year 11 students with details of the Easter holiday revision school.

### Girls' rugby

A group of 16 Year 8 and Year 10 girls proudly represented Stowupland High School at a girls' rugby tournament earlier this week at Stowmarket Rugby Club. A number of other local schools sent teams along and our girls played with great enthusiasm and commitment. Thank you Mrs Walton for organising this.

## Medication

The policy in relation to supporting students in school with a medical condition can be found on the [website](#).

Please remember that any medicines must be delivered to the school office by a parent/carer or other responsible adult (i.e. NOT the student). Medication must be clearly labelled with student's name, contents name, dosage and any other instructions from the doctor.

If medication is required over long periods of time, any change in dosage or other arrangements should be notified by parents and carers. Please note: it is the responsibility of parents and carers to maintain supplies of medicines in school and to ensure that those supplies are within their expiry date.

In accordance with the policy, parents and carers are required to:

- Complete all of Form 1: *Medical Consent Form*
- If you require the school to keep and administer medicines, you must complete and sign Form 2: *Parental agreement for School to administer medicine*
- If your child needs to carry their own medication in School, you must complete Form 3: *Request for child to carry his/her own medicine*

### The importance of reading

Yesterday, I attended a conference in London with other headteachers, school leaders and Ofsted inspectors including Amanda Spielman, Her Majesty's Chief Inspector. The key message related to the importance of reading. As adults, we can sometimes take our ability to read for granted because we have become confident readers, and read regularly for pleasure.

Learning to read fluently is a fundamental right. It enables children to access the curriculum, to learn well and to succeed in adult life. Unfortunately, it is clear from recent research that COVID has had a negative impact on young people's progress in reading. At Stowupland High School, we promote a love of reading - our school library, for example, is a wonder to behold - and develop fluency in reading in all subjects and during tutor sessions. Teaching young people to read confidently will always be our priority.

### Parental engagement survey

Thank you to all who completed the online parental engagement survey. We had a fantastic response from over 300 parents and carers who provided us with invaluable feedback. You have given us a clear insight into the areas of school life that are working well, and what we need to improve upon. The senior team has started to analyse this data and I will be able to write in more detail about this after Easter.

### Visit from the Assistant Director of Education

We were delighted to welcome Adrian Orr as a visitor last week. Adrian is Suffolk County Council's Assistant Director of Education and he enjoyed his tour of the school which included a visit to the Mulberry Centre. He wrote to me afterwards to say how clear it had been to him that students enjoy being here, that the school was "a very purposeful place of learning" and there was a "calm and industrious ethos." This is all down to the hard work and professionalism of our staff and our students' desire to live up to our vision of "Outstanding progress for all."

With my best wishes to you all for the week ahead

Peter Whear  
Executive Headteacher

### Year 7 and Year 8 Progress Checks

Unfortunately, due to staff absence, Y7 and Y8 progress checks have been delayed and will now be sent out to parents and carers next week.

Please accept our apologies for this delay.

### Reward Trips

As agreed in Whole School Council, all students with a positive behaviour profile between 21 March and 1 July are invited to take part in one of the following year group reward trips:

- Year 7: Colchester Zoo, Thursday 7 July
- Year 8: Colchester Zoo, Friday 8 July
- Year 9: Pleasurewood Hills, Thursday 14 July
- Year 10: Pleasurewood Hills, Friday 15 July

Separate communications have been sent out to individual year groups regarding payment dates etc. Behaviour points can be viewed on the Arbor App. If you are not yet registered on the Parent Portal, please contact the Front Office who will be happy to help you with this process.

### Vaccination UK

Parents and carers of Y9 students will have received a separate communication regarding the Meningitis ACWY and Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio boosters that will be administered in school on **Tuesday 10 May**.

Please note that the consent portal will close at midnight on Sunday 8 May. And remember to check your spam for the confirmation email.

Should you need to contact Vaccination UK, please use their direct number **01473 858693**.

The team has delivered paper consent forms for a small number of named Y10 students which will be brought home today. Please return these to the Front Office.

## Attendance up to 1 April 2022

Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11	Overall
92%	90.5%	90.2%	87.3%	91.4%	90.3%

### Diary dates

#### April:

Wednesday 6th: Y11 visit to Castle Acre  
Y7&8 Mulberry students visit to Felixstowe

Wednesday 6th - Friday 8th: *Matilda*

Friday 8th: Y11 Reports shared with parents and carers  
Last day of term

Monday 25th: Students return to school

#### May:

Wednesday 4th: Y10 Parents' Evening

Thursday 5th: Y11 visit to The Theatre Royal, Norwich

Tuesday 10th: Y9 DTP/Men ACWY boosters

### Contact Details:

<b>Main School:</b>	01449 674827 (08.30am - 4.00pm)
<b>Pastoral emails:</b>	<a href="mailto:year7@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk">year7@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk</a>
	<a href="mailto:year8@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk">year8@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk</a>
	<a href="mailto:year9@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk">year9@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk</a>
	<a href="mailto:year10@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk">year10@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk</a>
	<a href="mailto:year11@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk">year11@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk</a>
<b>General:</b>	<a href="mailto:sixthform@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk">sixthform@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk</a>
	<a href="mailto:enquiries@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk">enquiries@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk</a>
<b>Cashless catering:</b>	<a href="mailto:accounts@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk">accounts@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk</a>
<b>Library:</b>	<a href="mailto:library@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk">library@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk</a>
<b>Attendance:</b>	<a href="mailto:attendance@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk">attendance@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk</a>
<b>Absence Line:</b>	01449 742428
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.stowuplandhighschool.co.uk">www.stowuplandhighschool.co.uk</a>

Term Dates 2021- 2022		Half Term	Non Student Days
<b>Autumn Term 2021</b>	2nd September - 16th December	25th - 29th Oct	2nd September 3rd September
<b>Spring Term 2022</b>	4th January - 8th April	21st - 25th Feb	26th November 4th January
<b>Summer Term 2022</b>	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