



22nd July 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been a remarkable year at the school in many ways. Both students and staff have been keen to engage in a wide range of activities that exist both in and beyond the classroom, whilst at the same time being hampered by the continual need to self isolate as a result of Covid infections. The school community has demonstrated an incredible level of resilience but the leadership of the school on a day-to-day basis has become increasingly challenging.

However, as we go into the summer break, we do continue to be optimistic about the future. The students' achievements this year have given us much to be positive about and it was fantastic to be able to celebrate some of their achievements, along with parents and carers in our Celebration Assemblies throughout this week.

We are also a school that believes in listening to our stakeholders and whilst we have gathered a significant amount of feedback from students and staff this year, we are now at the stage where we would be grateful for the views of parents and carers. This, along with the other stakeholder views, will help us to shape the direction of the school in the future. We cannot be all things to all people, but we do believe in ensuring that we do our best to meet the needs of our students. I would be grateful if you would take the time to complete this survey and would be particularly grateful to hear from parents and carers from across all student age ranges [[click here](#)].

Return to School in September

We are delighted that we will have the opportunity to return to a standard school return for students and staff in September. A link to the term dates for 2022-23, including the plan for the start of term can be found [[here](#)]. For those wishing to plan ahead, 2023-24 dates are also now on the school website. I would ask all parents and carers to study this document carefully to ensure that their child arrives at school on the appropriate day and time. There are slightly different arrangements for some of the year groups.

The School Day

The start of the school day in September will be in its normal structure with all students arriving by 8.25am and in tutorial by 8.30am. Students can use either entry gate from Warren Road. The back gate will not be in general use. In response to feedback we have taken the decision to continue to stagger the departure time for students as follows:

Year 7 & 8: **2.55pm**
Year 9 & 10: **3.00pm**
Year 11, 12 & 13: **3.05pm**

We hope that this will alleviate the issues related to the large numbers of students leaving the school site at the same time. This decision will remain under review throughout the autumn term.

Vyners School
Warren Road, Ickenham,
Middlesex, UB10 8AB
Tel **01895 234342**

office@vynersschool.org.uk
www.vynersschool.org.uk

Mr Gary Mullings BA (Hons)
Headteacher

The structure of the school day will be as follows:

8.25am	Arrival (latest)
8.30am	Tutorial
8.50am	Period 1
Lesson change over	
9.55am	Period 2
10.55am	Break 1
11.20am	Period 3
Lesson change over	
12.25pm	Period 4
1.25pm	Break 2
2.00pm	Period 5
2.55pm	Years 7 & 8 dismissed
3.00pm	Years 9 & 10 dismissed
3.05pm	Years 11, 12 & 13 dismissed

Punctuality and Attendance

All students are expected to be on site by 8.25am at the latest but no earlier than 7.45am unless they have been specifically invited by a member of staff for an intervention or meeting. Morning tutorials and assemblies will start at 8.30am. Excellent attendance is something we work very hard on and contributes to raising standards of achievement.

Unfortunately, we have been disappointed with the number of families who have chosen to take family holidays during term time this year. This should not happen in an Outstanding school. Permission for leave of absence for holidays during term time will not be granted and we trust that going forward, all families will respect this and not take their son/daughter out of school for this reason. A full list of term time dates for 2022-2023 is shown [\[here\]](#) for your use in organising family holidays outside these dates.

There is a formal process for requesting leave of absence for any reason. Letters must be addressed to me as the Headteacher, at least two weeks prior to the date of the absence.

Uniform and Appearance

We have spent a lot of energy improving school uniform standards over the past ten years; students have embraced the improvements and I am very proud of their appearance. Visitors to the school always comment on how smart our students are.

Students are expected to wear the uniform correctly which includes top buttons being done up, ties worn correctly with the crest below the knot, shirts tucked in and skirts of the correct length. They must reach the top of their knees – if this is not the case, a new skirt will need to be purchased for September.

Please ensure shoes meet the high expectations of the Vyners' uniform policy. Kicker boots, Vans or Kicker leather trainers or similar styles are not acceptable and could lead to you making an expensive mistake. Please also ensure that your child starts the academic year with an appropriate haircut. As a reminder, the minimum length haircut for students in Years 7-11 is a **grade 2**.

A link to the uniform page on our website can be found [\[here\]](#). This page includes our Uniform Policy with a full uniform list. I would be grateful if you could spend time checking the uniform list carefully to ensure your son/daughter arrives properly dressed. The page also includes details of our uniform suppliers. Beat School Uniforms will be operating a [pop up shop](#) at the school for five consecutive weeks in August. With an eye on current economic pressures, can I also remind you that a new Facebook Group, accessible via the main school Facebook page, is already providing a useful forum for the sale or donation of second hand uniform.

Equipment

It is essential that students have the correct equipment with them every day. The sharing of equipment will continue to be prohibited. The summer holiday is an ideal time to replace those broken rulers, protractors, rubbers, pens or pencils.

Essential Equipment List:

- 2 x blue/black pens (we recommend black as this colour is now exclusively used in examinations)
- 1 x green pen (ReAct work/self and peer assessment)
- Sharpened pencil
- Eraser
- Ruler
- Suitable pencil case
- Calculator and maths set
- Glue sticks
- Safe scissors

Staffing

This summer we have a number of staff who are at a point in their careers where they have been fortunate to gain promotion to posts in other schools and some who are either relocating to other parts of the UK and abroad or have chosen to retire. We say a very fond farewell to them and wish them every success in the future:

Mr Abbasi	Science / Year 11 Leader
Miss Ahern	History
Mr Basha	Design and Technology
Miss Conti	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Fahmy	PE / Geography
Mr David	RE / Ethics
Miss Flynn-Watson	English
Ms Griffin	Psychology
Mrs Hurst	Teaching Assistant
Mr Lavington	Science / Year 9 Leader
Miss McGovern	Mathematics
Mrs Opie	Receptionist

Speaking to colleagues from across the sector, it has become abundantly clear that recruitment in education has become increasingly challenging and whilst this has been the case at Vyners, the reputation of the school means we have been able to appoint outstanding replacements for staff that are leaving or going on to maternity leave. Our ongoing expansion also provides us with additional staffing needs but I am delighted to share that we are fully staffed for September. I would like to say a very warm welcome to the following staff that will join us at the start of term:

Miss Berlajolli	Design and Technology
Mrs Bokhari	Science
Miss Brennan	English
Miss Cannas	Music
Mrs Davies	Design and Technology
Mr Dennis	English
Mrs Ehsan	Science
Mr Flynn	Physical Education
Mrs Gera	Teaching Assistant
Mr Hamid	Economics
Mr Hill	Learning Resource Centre Manager
Mr Miller	Science
Mrs Pitwell	Receptionist
Miss Shah	Mathematics
Mrs Sharp	Teaching Assistant
Mr Smith	History
Ms Walsh	Teaching Assistant

We are also delighted that Miss Vorce will be returning to school from her maternity leave in September. I am sure these members of staff will be extremely happy at Vyners School and I look forward to working with them in September.

Staff Long Service Awards

There are several members of staff who have received long service awards this year and I would like to thank them for their remarkable commitment and loyalty to the school.

15 years plus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Connolly • Mrs Maksymowych • Mrs Fahmy • Mr Bendifallah • Mrs Nathan • Mrs Bashford-Hynes • Miss Pape • Mrs Vine • Mrs Donohoe • Mrs Hurst • Mr Seabridge • Mrs Fincham • Mrs Kendall • Mrs O'Reilly • Mrs Purtill • Mrs Wright • Mr Lavington • Mr Babra • Mrs Murphy • Mrs Tikare
20 years plus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Brooks • Ms Sanghani • Ms Kendall
25 years plus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs Kalsi

I would like to congratulate all our students on working so hard throughout this disrupted year. I would also like to thank the staff for their efforts and the help they have given students, and would also thank all parents and carers for their continued support.

Finally, I would like to thank the Local Governing Body for their commitment to the school throughout this year. Their support has been invaluable.

Have a very enjoyable summer holiday and I look forward to seeing everyone in September.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gary Mullings', written in a cursive style.

Gary Mullings
Headteacher