



Sandy Lane  
Blackdown  
Leamington Spa  
Warwickshire CV32 6RD

T: 01926 338711  
E: [nls@northleamington.co.uk](mailto:nls@northleamington.co.uk)  
[www.northleamington.co.uk](http://www.northleamington.co.uk)

10 September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

A warm welcome to all new parents, carers and guardians of students joining North Leamington School in September 2021. I very much hope your child's start has been a positive one, and an equally warm welcome back to all existing parents, carers and guardians. I hope you had a good summer break, albeit a slightly different one for many. I hope it was an opportunity for all at home to spend time with friends and family. It's been lovely to welcome all students back to school, it's the first time in a long time that we have been able to run large assemblies and allow students more freedom such as access and use of the full site and the opportunities to mix, meet and work with more peers.

All students have now returned, thank you for the support and patience you have shown with our staggered start. We have completed over two thousand lateral flow tests and all students have been transitioned to home testing kits. Please do continue to complete regular testing - we did pick up three positive tests that were later confirmed through PCRs and those students are now working from home for their isolation period. A link to the latest government guidance and school operating process can be found on our new school website [here](#). We still continue to advocate regular hand washing / sanitising, working in well ventilated areas and regular testing to help reduce the risk of Covid-19 transmission, which unfortunately will still be a challenge we must manage for some time.

We will continue to focus on providing an excellent school experience for all our students and throughout this year, look at ways to improve communication primarily between home and school, which has been raised from parent forums. I firmly believe that simple, timely, relevant and efficient communication helps us work to best support all our students. To that end, starting today, all mass distribution from school will be sent on a Friday unless an urgent message must be communicated. All distributions will be sent to relevant student groups or year groups and I will write once a fortnight with key updates from school. Individual communication will still occur as and when required. Our school website has been updated to a more user friendly platform with clear links to all staff contact details. First points of contact, unless an administrative issue, will be your child's form tutor.

We have also launched the first phase of a new software platform called Go4Schools which will enable you to receive weekly updates of your child's attendance, timetable and behaviour (both positive and negative). I will write again later in the term, ahead of our first reporting cycle when we launch phase two, adding in homework and progress updates – please see accompanying letters for login details. As this is a new system, please bear with us as we work through the system's capabilities and getting it up and running to full capacity.

Linking in nicely for the need to improve communication between school and home are the notifications sent by school at the end of last term around the revision to our School Uniform Policy. Unfortunately some have reported these were not received, so the return to our existing policy of no

sports logos on footwear came as a surprise on return. We are a school with high standards and expectations and I believe wholeheartedly in the benefits of a school uniform, primarily to remove any aspect of both peer and financial pressures that do come with keeping up with fashionable items. Our school policy has always included the requirement that students' footwear is without a sports logo, but for understandable reasons over the last two years whilst dealing with a pandemic the enforcement of such was relaxed. However, the time is right to move back to our uniform policy, which has been improved to be non-gender specific and equal. The school and in the first instance form tutors, will work with all families over the coming weeks and months to support students in following the uniform policy. Please do not worry, there are no deadlines or consequences as yet, I fully understand the need to work towards an appropriate timeframe for all and financial support will be given to any in need.

Lastly, I would like to share the main message that was front and centre for all students irrespective of year group in their assemblies this week. Firstly we are thrilled that they are back and wish them all the luck this year, we want them to enjoy themselves, work hard, make the most of being in school and lessons and utilise the wider curriculum offers available. Our school vision of Commitment, Opportunity, Respect and Excellence is one we are proud to promote and we look forward to working with all our young people and their families in continuing to build a great community.

Yours sincerely



Mike Lowdell  
Head Teacher