



Craigie High School

Andrena Waghorn—Head Teacher
Garnet Terrace, Dundee, DD4 7QD
Tel: (01382) 431111

Email:
craigiehighschool@dundeeshools.scot

Dear Parent/Carer

August 2021 Update

Plans for return to school Tuesday 17th August

Welcome to our first communication of the new session. I hope that you and your family have all had a relaxing and enjoyable summer break following an unprecedented and challenging time for everyone last year. Following the announcement by Nicola Sturgeon, First Minister and in consultation with Dundee City Council (<https://www.dundee.gov.uk/coronavirus/schools-information>) I am now in a position to share with you the arrangements for the return of pupils next week. **All pupils are due to return to school on Tuesday 17th August for the start of the new term.** A reminder that the school day starts at 8.45 and finishes at 3.40 on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays and 2.50 on Thursdays and Fridays. Whilst there has been some relaxation of COVID-19 measures across the country there is still an expectation that pupils (unless they have a medical exemption) will wear a face mask in all classrooms and social areas. Please ensure that your child has a face mask for coming to school every day.

Arrangements for S2-S6 pupils

All pupils should arrive in time for an 8.45 start. Pupils should report to the same House Tutor classroom as they were in prior to the summer holidays. Pupils will be issued with their timetables during this time.

Arrangements for new S1 pupils

I would like to extend a warm welcome to all of our new S1 pupils. **Pupils should aim to arrive for a 9.15 start.** We are asking the new S1 to start slightly later to allow them to have time with their Principal Teacher of Guidance and their buddies before starting their actual timetabled classes. This time will be used to familiarise pupils with some of the procedural aspects of starting at Craigie which would normally have been covered during transition visits in June which did not follow the usual transition arrangements. On the first day new S1 will not yet have been issued with their NEC card (this will be done during their first day) and parents/carers will need to register for Parent Pay. A letter will be given to each pupil on Wednesday which will provide details on how to set up Parent Pay. That means that for the new S1 only they will need to bring cash on the first couple of days to pay for lunch or snacks at interval (unless, of course, they are receiving free school meals or bring a packed lunch).

Entering the School Premises

A reminder to pupils and parents that pupils should enter the school by either the Arbroath Road or Brington Road entrances. The front door should only be used for pupils who have official transport organised via Dundee City Council or who have a pass issued by their House Head. All other pupils must use the normal routes into school.

Arrangements for Interval and Lunch

Normal arrangements are in place for both interval and lunch. Parents/Carers are asked to ensure that all free school meal arrangements are in place and that there is sufficient funding on each child's NEC card to pay for snacks and lunches. All pupils are reminded that they must remain on the school premises during interval and not leave the premises for any reason.

Vaccinations for 16 and 17 year olds

At the moment we have no further information regarding the plans for this but will keep you informed of any updates.

Covid Arrangements

Confirmed COVID Cases – Change to Scottish Government arrangements for close contacts

From the start of term, any young person who is identified as a close contact will be required to:

- Arrange a PCR test, either at a test centre or via a home kit as soon as possible and self-isolate until the test result is known
- If the PCR test returns as positive, the young person will be required to self-isolate as per NHS guidance
- If the PCR test is negative, the young person can return to school (as long as they are asymptomatic) without having to self-isolate any longer
- To support us, please send proof of the negative test result by email in advance of your young person's return

Lateral Flow Testing

As noted in my final newsletter of last term, all staff and young people are encouraged to test for symptoms via Lateral Flow Tests (LFDs) in the lead up to our return. The tests should be taken on a Monday and Thursday.

If you require a supply of LFDs, additional kits can be collected from the school reception on Monday and Thursday afternoons. If you have already completed a consent form for last session, you do not need to repeat the process.

Communications from school to home

The vast majority of our general communications will come to you either through email or text. This will often provide a link to a letter or an item on our website [Welcome — Craigie High School \(ea.dundeehighschool.org.uk\)](http://www.dundeehighschool.org.uk) Where there is a need to contact you about a personal matter relating to your child, a telephone call by a senior member of staff will take place. Please ensure that you keep us up to date with any changes of names, addresses or telephone numbers as well as email addresses. We do also share a great deal of general information via Twitter so it would be very helpful if you can follow us on Twitter.

Uniform

We are a uniform wearing school and would ask all parents to ensure that pupils are appropriately dressed when they attend school. The school website provides information on what is acceptable to wear. Following consultation with staff, parents and pupils and as part of our commitment to reducing the cost to families of the school day we have added black hooded tops (no large logos or bright colours are allowed) to our uniform policy and these can now be worn in classes. **Please note, however, pupils are not permitted to have their hoods up anywhere inside the building.**

SQA Results

All pupils should have known their results prior to the issue of the SQA results and will, by now, have their certificates issued by the SQA. I would like to congratulate our pupils on their results despite a very difficult and stressful last term for them. Our results continue to improve and is a reflection of the hard work and commitment from both pupils and staff to make sure we do the best for all of our young people.

Parent Council

If any parent/carer would like to become a member of the Parent Council for the coming session please contact your child's Guidance Teacher who will pass the information onto me. There is usually one meeting (on Teams at the moment) per term and it provides an opportunity to meet other parents and contribute to the overall working of the school as well as helping to identify priorities for the next year. Even if you can't attend all the meetings you are still welcome to put your name down.

In general, we know that the Pandemic is not over and, whilst we need to continue to be diligent in relation to our own and others safety, I am hopeful that we are moving towards a more normal setting than we have had for the last 18 months or so. Any information that we have regarding changes to any aspect of school life will be shared with you as soon as we can. I look forward to welcoming all pupils back into Craigie High School next week and to continue working with you in supporting the health and wellbeing of all of the young people in our school community.

Yours sincerely

A Waghorn

Andrena Waghorn
Head Teacher

Respect ▪ Equality ▪ Responsibility ▪ Determination ▪ Honesty