

# RIPLEY ST THOMAS

CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

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9 July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

## COVID measures

You will be aware of the announcements from Boris Johnson and the DFE regarding the next steps out of lockdown. Whilst current restrictions are due to finish on Monday 19 July, we will be continuing with our safety measures in school in the final two days whilst cases in Lancaster remain high and we are still seeing some positive cases in school. This means we will continue in our bubbles and will be wearing face coverings at least until we finish on Tuesday 20 July.

## COVID update

We received notification that the Y9 case I informed you about yesterday has returned a **negative** PCR result. All pupils who were self-isolating because of this case have now been contacted and invited to return to school.

## Lateral Flow Testing in September

The DFE have announced this week that schools must offer two Lateral Flow tests on site for pupils on their return in September. We are currently setting up our testing site again and making plans to facilitate the testing of over 1700 pupils. Schools are allowed to organise a staggered start to enable us to do this; we will inform you as soon as possible about how this may impact the start of term.

## Early Closure – Tuesday 20 July and Buses

A reminder that we close at 12.30pm on Tuesday 20 July for our summer holidays. School buses will be arriving at 12.30pm on that day. The following buses will **not** be operating from Ripley and therefore pupils will need to use a service bus after school on that day:

Stagecoach 55, 81, 40, 42  
Kirkby Lonsdale 582

## Looking ahead to September

### Lanyards

We will be retaining our pupil lanyards next academic year. This was initially introduced for COVID reasons, but it has been a very helpful new addition in identifying different year groups. Please ensure your son / daughter keeps their lanyard and card safe over the summer and brings them back next year as they will be keeping the same colour.

If your child needs a replacement, these can be purchased online for £3 using SCOPAY. Once the order is processed, your child will receive an email informing them they can collect their new badge from the IT technicians' office.

### Looking smart

We pride ourselves on our high standards and being extremely smart at Ripley. Please ensure you take the time over summer to check your child's uniform and PE kit. Many of our pupils have grown a lot over the lockdown period and some uniform items may need replacing, particularly skirts which may now be too short.

Mr P Wilson will be sending out some reminders regarding our uniform policy in the coming days, so please do take time to check this over the summer.

*Believe.....*

**Uniform Swap Shop**

If your child has grown out of their uniform, please consider donating any good quality items to our new 'swap shop'. This will enable families to 'trade in' their good quality uniform items for a larger size. If you have items to donate, please ask your child to bring these to Mr Wilson's office, near the dining room.

I wish you all a restful weekend and – dare I say it - enjoy the football!

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C Walmsley'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'C'.

Mrs C Walmsley  
Principal