



Headlands HEADLINES

ISSUE **1** FRIDAY 10th SEPTEMBER 2021

Headteacher's message

This week has seen the return of all our students to school - and it has been great to see the corridors, classrooms and social areas buzzing with students.

The atmosphere around school has been brilliant - students calm and purposeful in lessons and at social times interacting with each other positively, catching up on their Summer experiences.

The next half-term is set to be a very busy one with Flamingo Land, Transition Open Events, Celebration Evening and the Year 11 and Sixth Form Ball to name but a few! All fantastic opportunities for our students and our school community to get back to some form of 'new' normal.

Our students results this Summer were staggeringly brilliant and well deserved. Some headline figures include:

A Level



- 50% of students achieved at least one Grade 7 or above
- 82% of students achieved a Grade 4 or higher in English and Maths

We are confident that these results place us locally, regionally and nationally in a good place and are testament to the hard work and dedication of our students during their time at Headlands School.

Exciting times lie ahead for our current students and we are confident our students will continue to build on the successes of previous cohorts.

If you would like to know more about the school's priorities for 2021-2022 please look at our school website <https://headlandsschool.co.uk/about-the-school/vision-and-values> and refer to the school's latest Development Plan.

Stay safe and well,

Sarah Bone

- 51% of students secured grades A* or A (national average in 2021 - 44%)
- 85% of students secured grades A* to B
- 100% of students secured grades A* to C (national average in 2021 - 88%)

GCSE

- 12% of students secured a Grade 9
- 21% of students achieved a Grade 7 to 9

ALL STUDENTS IN PE KIT NEXT THURSDAY

Nasal Flu Vaccinations

Nasal Flu Vaccinations will take place in school on 15th October for all students in Years 7 to 11. If you would like your child to have this please complete the online consent form at <https://www.nhs.uk/FLU/information?Id=118085&Type=FLU>.

An Intouch email was sent on 8th September including the link to the form.

Fun zone next week

There's an exciting day planned for all year groups at Headlands next Thursday, 16th September.

Students will have the opportunity to come out for an hour to access the fun zone, which will be at Headlands all day.

Period 1- Year 7

Period 2- Year 8

Period 3- Year 9

Period 4- Year 10

Period 5- Year 11 and Sixth Form

Students will need to come in their PE kit for the full day.

Students who paid for a wristband will have the opportunity to get a full refund or keep the band for next summer's Sports Day.

Anyone requiring a refund, should email finance@headlandsschool.co.uk



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Welcome to our Year 7 students

Plenty of smiles from some of our new Year 7 students on their first day at Headlands School on Tuesday.





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COVID-19 update

It is important to note that COVID-19 remains with us and we would continue to ask parents and carers to remain vigilant to students displaying any symptoms and ensure, if in doubt, they are not sent into school and undertake a PCR test.

Please ensure Year Leaders are made aware as well as contacting NHS Test and Trace.

You may be interested to know The Department for Education has produced two documents this Summer in terms of how schools should now operate - the guidance documents are called 'The Schools Operational Guidance' and 'The Contingency Framework'.

The Contingency Framework doesn't include the reintroduction of bubbles as one of the measures schools should be prepared to step up to if necessary. However, the Operational Guidance says the following:

"You should make sure your Contingency Plans (sometimes called outbreak management plans) cover the possibility that in some local areas it may become necessary to reintroduce 'bubbles' for a temporary period, to reduce mixing between groups."

As noted in Headlands Headlines on 9th July 2021, wherever possible we will continue to keep students in consistent groups (not 'bubbles') from September, to support the NHS in being able to undertake Test and Trace of students, if required.

As has happened in 2020-2021, when discussed and agreed with parents and carers, students can move groups - if required - for either academic or pastoral reasons.

The Department for Education's Contingency Framework (August 2021) states settings should consider further action when one

of the following thresholds is reached :

1. Five students or staff, who are likely to have mixed closely, test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period

or

2. 10% of students or staff who are likely to have mixed closely test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period

Actions the Department for Education recommend schools take if the above thresholds are reached include considering:

- Whether any activities could take place outdoors, including exercise, assemblies, or classes
- Ways to improve ventilation indoors, where this would not significantly impact thermal comfort
- One-off enhanced cleaning focussing on touch points and any shared equipment
- Strengthened communications to encourage students to undertake twice weekly rapid asymptomatic home testing and reporting
- Temporarily reinstating face coverings for students, staff and visitors in indoor and/or communal spaces in secondary schools. This should be for two weeks in the first instance, pending regular review.
- Reinstating on-site rapid LFD testing in secondary schools for a two-week period to encourage uptake of twice weekly testing.
- Increased frequency of testing.

What is key to share with parents and carers here is that the Local Authority Public Health Team may also recommend, in extreme cases, and as a last resort where all other risk mitigations have not broken chains of in-school transmission, introducing short-term attendance restrictions in a setting, such as sending home a class or year group (as they could advise any workplace experiencing a serious infectious disease outbreak).

What we don't want is this decision to come as a surprise to parents, carers and students if this recommendation is made in the interests of Public Health.

High-quality remote learning would be provided for all students well enough to learn from home.

We would continue to retain on-site provision for vulnerable children and young people and the children of critical workers.

It is therefore imperative, as mentioned at the start of this briefing, we are aware of all cases of COVID-19 and students do not attend school if they have possible symptoms.

Careers Corner

The new-look careers section of the Headlands School website is now live.

It shows information about the high quality careers programme we deliver at Headlands, and information about the major annual events, such as work experience and mock interview day.

There are also stories from former Headlands students, with details of the careers they progressed to.

Back to school 2021

It's lovely to see all of our students back at Headlands and to meet our new Year 7s.

A few things have changed, so here is a guide to some of the important parts of school life.

MASKS

Students can wear face coverings when inside the school corridors, toilets, changing rooms and classrooms if they wish. Students will not be sanctioned for not wearing them - it is not compulsory.

Staff will still be wearing face coverings - although this may change.

BUBBLES

Although the rules around keeping students in bubbles have changed, wherever possible we will continue to keep students in consistent groups.

The changes to the Government guidance also means that anyone below the age of 18 does not have to isolate for 10 days if they are classed as a close contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.

UNIFORM

The only change to our uniform this year is that students can wear grey or black shorts as part of our summer uniform.

Staff will be looking carefully at uniform over the next few weeks to help all students to get it right. Full details are on the Uniform page of the school website and in student planners.

CLUBS

Clubs and activities after-school and at lunchtimes can start to operate fully because students no longer have to stay in bubbles.

We are just putting together the full schedule of clubs and will let students and parents know about them, and how to sign up, very shortly.

TESTING

Students have been offered the chance to have two lateral flow tests in school during the first week of term.

All staff and students are encouraged to continue testing themselves twice a week at home. If a student tests positive they must isolate at home for 10 days, unless they take a PCR test which gives a negative result.

STAMPS

Stamps will be awarded for good behaviour, effort and work in class and around school and will now be put into students' planners directly by staff.



HEADLANDS
SCHOOL

TIMETABLE

All students start their school day at 8.25am and finish their final lesson at 2.45pm.

We are continuing with two timetables, to minimise congestion around the school at break and lunch times.

Year 7, 9 and the Sixth Form have break at 9.50am and lunch at 12.05pm. Years 8, 10 and 11 have break at 10.50am and lunch at 1.05pm.