



*Striving for Excellence*

# Cirencester Kingshill School

*Head: Christine S. Oates*

16<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

We have finally made it to the end of what has undoubtedly been the most challenging year that I have faced as a Headteacher.

Having said that, I reach the end of term feeling immense pride toward the pupils and staff of the school for the way in which they have coped, adapted and conducted themselves throughout the many changes that we have faced as a community this year. From having to Lateral Flow Test in school and then at home, to keeping within year group bubbles, to learning and teaching from home, everyone has done their bit and continued with commitment and resilience. Despite what we have faced, the pupils have still achieved a great deal, and they should look forward to a very well earned rest over the summer.

I am certain that we are all very much looking forward to a more “normal” year next year, and I am very much looking forward to a greater sense of familiarity for us all when we return in September.

## **Year 10**

I want to take this opportunity to say how sorry I am that our Y10 pupils were not able to spend the last week of the school year with us. Having done so well to keep school running throughout the pandemic, it is very sad that the whole year group was hit so hard on this final week of the year. I know that Mr Morland has written to Y10 pupils separately, so in addition to what he has already said, I will just now add that I am very much looking forward to seeing them all back as our new Y11 pupils in September.

## **Activity Day & Charity Fair**

We have had a fantastic two days of fun and laughter with our Y7, Y8 & Y9 pupils as they celebrated the end of term with their charity fair and some fun on the giant inflatable assault course that we brought in to school. We are very proud of their fund raising efforts (an incredible £1153.86 was raised!), and also of how brilliantly behaved the pupils were as they embraced the fun across these two days. The funds will go to the NHS Charity, I’m sure we all agree that this is a very worthy cause.

## **Awards Assemblies**

It has been a real privilege to share the awards assemblies with pupils this week. Thanks to the fine weather we have held them outside in the fresh air, and to celebrate the successes of pupils at the end of what has been an extremely difficult year, felt all the more special. My congratulations go to all of our pupils for their hard work and commitment to learning this year.

## **Summer Concert**

Whilst it was not as large an event as we had hoped due to the impact of COVID-19 isolations from school this week, we were still delighted to be able to give those pupils who were in school on Wednesday the opportunity to perform in front of a small but perfectly formed audience of staff from school. The performances took place in the evening sunshine and each and every pupil performed wonderfully, particularly when considering how limited their practice has been able to be in the current circumstances.

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Please keep an eye on the school website over the next few days for ways in which you can watch a recording of the performances.

## Sports Days

Following a slight disruption due to poor weather last week, we have now managed to hold sports days for Y7-Y10. Both afternoons provided opportunity for all pupils to get involved, whether that was participating in the events or by supporting friends taking part, all pupils got in to the spirit of the sports and showed great enthusiasm. Thank you to Mr Hamblin and the rest of the PE Faculty for their hard work in putting the event schedule together and running it so well within the current COVID-19 restrictions.

## Open Mornings

On 5<sup>th</sup> -7<sup>th</sup> July 2021, we hosted 150 Y5 pupils and their parent/carer for a short tour of the school, ahead of them selecting their chosen secondary school in September. Whilst the format of the Open Morning was very different to usual due to the restrictions on external visitors in school, we were able to provide each small group of visitors with a Y9 guide to show them around. Our Y9 guides were exceptional role models and ambassadors of the school and many of the visiting parents made a point of saying how well they had done.

Many of these Y9 pupils will go on in September to act as buddies for our new Y7 pupils, so they will continue to be shining examples of how to behave as a pupil of Kingshill School. Thank you and well done to you all.

## COVID-19 Update

The Prime Minister recently set out details of the final roadmap step (Step 4) as we transition out of lockdown. The controls that apply in schools to maintain a baseline of protective measures while maximising attendance and minimising disruption to pupil's education are being changed.

More information on the changes that schools will see from September including the removal of year group bubbles, can be found in the following article published by the Department for Education.

<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2021/07/06/parents-pupils-teachers-and-students-find-out-what-step-4-of-the-covid-roadmap-means-for-you/>

All Y7, Y8 and Y9 pupils have been asked to take home a box of testing kits earlier this week. We would ask for all parents and carers to ensure that one of the tests in the kits provided is retained for use on the evening before your child's first day back to school in September. This will be a huge help to us as we bring the school back together after the summer holidays, and will help ensure that we start the new school year with a clean bill of health. Your support with this is very much appreciated by all in school. Should you wish to continue to test your child over the summer, the article linked above provides details on where test kits can be sourced.

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## ONSITE ASYMPTOMATIC TESTING

On the return of pupils to school in September, we are required to provide two onsite asymptomatic COVID-19 tests. These will be the same as the tests that were undertaken in school earlier this year. Y7, Y10 & Y11 pupils will have their first test on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021 followed by a second one on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2021. Y8 & Y9 pupils will have their first test on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021, followed by a second on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

We are still waiting on final details from the DfE on how the testing process will need to be administered by schools, this is expected after 18<sup>th</sup> August 2021. As soon as we have received this and reviewed against our own set up in school, we will be in touch via email to confirm with parents/carers. Please keep an eye on your email over the holidays for any updates from us.

## Uniform

As school returns to normal in September, we are able to reinstate the use of PE changing rooms again, and consequently require pupils to wear their standard winter school uniform every day, with PE kit being changed in to for PE lessons only.

Our expectations for correct and proper school uniform are high, and we will be looking to start the new academic year with those expectations being followed. A copy of our uniform list is attached to this letter.

Many thanks for your support and cooperation with this.

## Term Dates – 2021/2022

Gloucestershire County Council school term dates for 2021/2022 have been updated and the academic year will now end in the summer on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2022. This is in acknowledgement of the extra holiday requirement as a result of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee bank holiday falling within our half term. A revised calendar is available on the school website.

As a reminder, we have a staggered start to the new academic year in September, with Y7, Y10 & Y11 pupils starting back on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021, and Y8 & Y9 pupils starting on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021. Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September will be an Induction day for Y7 pupils, and I look forward to welcoming them to their new school.

## Staff Update

We have a number of staff moving on from their roles here at Cirencester Kingshill School at the end of this term. Mrs Cameron (Teacher of Food Technology) is retiring, Mrs Boakye (Teacher of RE, Drama and Child Care) is relocating, Mrs Knight (Teacher of Science) has come to the end of her temporary contract, Miss Thompson (Teacher of Mathematics) is relocating, Mrs Sim (Librarian) is moving to a new role outside of Education, Mrs Hooper (Teaching Assistant) is relocating, Mrs Rigg (Teaching Assistant) is moving to a new role outside of Education, and finally Miss Fisher (Teaching Assistant) is going to train to be a Teacher.

Thank you to them all for their time and hard work at Kingshill School, and we wish them all the very best for their futures.

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We are very happy to have welcomed back Mrs Hussey in July as she returned from maternity leave. It is great to have her back in school with us and I know that the pupils have been pleased to welcome her back as well.

Thank you to all parents and carers for your continued support, it is very much appreciated. As always, if you have any questions related to the above or need to discuss anything related to your child's schooling, please feel free to contact their tutor, Head of Year, Head of Key Stage or myself.

For now, all that remains to be said is that I wish you all a very relaxing, happy and healthy summer break and hope that the weather remains fine for us all to enjoy time with friends and family. I look forward to seeing everyone back in school in September.

Yours sincerely,

Miss C. S. Oates  
Headteacher

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## School Uniform

Blazer	Navy blazer embroidered with the school badge
	<b>Note:</b> Blazers should be worn during the school day and to and from school. Pupils may remove them in lessons.
Shirt	Plain white long sleeved shirt. Must be worn tucked in and with the top button fastened.
	<b>Note:</b> ¾ sleeves or fitted styles are not allowed. If a t-shirt is worn underneath it must be plain white.
School tie	School Key Stage 3 or 4 tie
Jumper	Navy blue jumper embroidered with the school badge.
	<b>Note:</b> A jumper is an additional garment and not an alternative to the blazer. Hoodies and sweatshirts are not acceptable as part of school uniform and may not be worn as an alternative to outer coats.
Cardigan	Navy blue cardigan embroidered with the school badge
	<b>Note:</b> Pupils may prefer to wear a cardigan rather than the jumper. No other cardigans are permitted.
Girls' skirts	Grey skirt, girls may choose from one of two designs from Trutex: Stitch down pleat skirt or Kick pleat skirt.
	<b>Note:</b> Skirts must be worn no more than two inches above the top of the knee cap. Pupils will be expected to replace skirts that do not meet these requirements. No other skirts are permitted.
Girls' trousers	Grey school trousers from uniform stockists. These should be tailored.
	<b>Note:</b> Baggy or skinny leg trousers or leggings are not allowed. Jeans or trousers with metal studs or rivets are not allowed.
Boys' trousers	Grey school trousers from uniform stockists.
	<b>Note:</b> Skinny leg trousers or chinos are not allowed. Jeans or trousers with metal studs or rivets are not allowed.
Summer uniform polo shirt	Navy blue polo shirt with the school logo. This may be worn during terms 5 and 6.
	<b>Note:</b> If a t-shirt is worn underneath it must be plain white. If pupils wish to continue wearing their shirt and tie during terms 5 and 6, they may do so. Blazers and school jumpers are optional during terms 5 and 6, although these should be worn as extra layers for warmth if pupils need them.
School shorts	Grey, tailored knee length shorts may be worn during term 5 and 6. They must be no more than two inches above the top of the knee cap.
Shoes	Black school shoes, with heels no higher than 1 inch. Shoes should be lace up or slip on shoes with enclosed heels and toes.
	<b>Note:</b> Pupils are not allowed to wear trainers, boots or canvas shoes.
Socks and tights	Plain white, black or grey socks for both boys and girls. Tights must be plain black.
Coats	A coat may be worn outside the school buildings.
	<b>Note:</b> A coat cannot be worn in place of a school jumper.

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Hooded sweatshirts may not be worn in place of a coat.

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Hair	Hair should be clean and tidy and of a natural colour. Long hair must be tied back in accordance with Health and Safety regulations for some activities.
	<b>Note:</b> The following haircuts are not permitted: Haircuts of Grade 1 and below - or haircuts where the skin at the back of the head is visible. 'Skin fades' or any haircut that makes an immediate distinction between the bottom and top of the head. Clearly visible tram-lines.
Make-up	If worn, make-up must be minimal and discrete. False eyelashes are NOT permitted. The wearing of nail polish and /or acrylic nails is not allowed.
Jewellery	One watch may be worn. Pupils with pierced ears are permitted to wear one small stud in the lower lobe of each ear.
	<b>Note:</b> No other piercings are permitted. Stretch earrings, 'smilers' or pins are not allowed. Necklaces and bracelets, including festival wrist bands, are not allowed.

## PE Kit

### Girls

Falcon polo shirt	Kingshill School black polo shirt embroidered with the school badge
Falcon skort	Kingshill School black skort
Mid layer *	Red and black top, optional item to be worn during cold weather
Quarter Zip Sweat Top *	Kingshill School quarter zip sweat top embroidered with the school badge, optional item to be worn during cold weather
Leggings	Plain black sports leggings, to be worn in cold weather
Trainers	Not skateboarding shoes or pumps

\* One or other of these items is required for the Winter. In particularly cold weather, both will be permitted.

### Boys

Falcon polo shirt	Kingshill School black polo shirt embroidered with the school badge
Falcon shorts	Kingshill School black shorts
Reversible rugby shirt	Kingshill School rugby shirt embroidered with the school badge
Mid layer *	Red and black top, optional item to be worn during cold weather
Quarter Zip Sweat Top *	Kingshill School quarter zip sweat top embroidered with the school badge, optional item to be worn during cold weather
Long rugby/football socks	Black and red socks
Rugby/football boots	
Trainers	Not skateboarding shoes or pumps
Tracksuit bottoms	These must be plain black. Not compulsory but advisable as pupils are expected to play outdoors in all weather.

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Shin pads for football	Not compulsory but strongly advised
Mouth guard	Not compulsory but strongly advised

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## **NB**

The polo shirt, shorts, skort, quarter zip sweat top and socks can only be purchased from D and J Sports shop in Cirencester.

The Mid layer, rugby shirt and leggings can be purchased on line through Trutex and bought at D and J Sports shop.

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