



To Aspire, Endeavour and Thrive Together

20th May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you are all keeping safe and well.

As we come to the end of our first full half term in school it has been wonderful to have students back in the building receiving face-to-face teaching. They have managed the transition back into school with great success and it's been a pleasure to watch them get back into 'normal' learning routines.

It has also been great to see extra-curricular activities starting again for the first time in over a year. We now have athletics after school, drama club, dance and on Tuesday our Duke of Edinburgh students went out on their first planned walk.

As we move closer towards normality in school, our next big transition is for students to move around the building so that they can access specialist classrooms for Science, Art, DT, Music, Computer Science, Drama and Dance. Since September they have been kept mostly on one corridor in order to reduce movement around the site. However, from June 7th we hope to be able to revert to a 'normal' timetable, where students will be taught in specialist classrooms, moving from classroom to classroom with teachers remaining in the same room.

In order for us to prepare for this, students will finish school on **Friday 28th May at 12.30pm**. This will allow teachers to move resources back into classrooms and set them up ready for teaching on June 7th. As you can imagine, a lot of classrooms have been changed around to accommodate the tight restrictions we faced and resources have been moved around the school site. We need some time to get classrooms ready for specialist teaching and therefore we will use the afternoon to do this.

If your child has free school meals, we will provide a packed lunch for them to take home. This will be available to collect from the heart at 12.30pm as they leave the site. Please complete the following form by Monday 24th if you would like your child to receive a packed lunch:

<https://forms.gle/FWTJrzdzXL9cuRp78>

Changes from Monday June 7th

Start and end of the school day

From 7th June, all year groups will start and end school at the same time. All students should arrive by 8.40am and will start their tutor time at 8.45am. All year groups will be dismissed at 3pm. Year 7, 8 and 9 students will continue to line up in their usual areas, Year 10 students will move to the area outside the Technology classrooms (previously the Year 11 line up area).

Glossopdale School & Sixth Form, Newshaw Lane, Email: info@glossopdale.school

Hadfield, Glossop, SK13 2DA.

Tel: 01457 862336

Executive Headteacher: Mrs. D. McGloin

Web: www.glossopdale.school

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The information in this letter should be shared with other person(s) with parental responsibility for your child.



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Safety measures

While restrictions are easing, it remains essential to keep students and staff as safe as possible in school. Our system of controls is in place to:

- Minimise contact with individuals who are required to self-isolate by ensuring they do not attend the school
- Ensure face coverings are used in recommended circumstances
- Ensure everyone is advised to clean their hands thoroughly and more often than usual
- Ensure good respiratory hygiene for everyone by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach
- Maintain enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently-touched surfaces often, using standard products such as detergents
- Consider how to minimise contact across the site and maintain social distancing wherever possible
- Keep occupied spaces well-ventilated
- Continue to distribute testing kits to all students, promoting the importance of twice weekly home testing as a means of minimising asymptomatic transmission

Home testing

Thank you to all students and parents who have been testing and reporting. Covid testing at home for all secondary age students this will continue until the end of the academic year. We will continue to provide testing kits in tutor times until 21st July. Please ensure that your child takes a test every Monday and Thursday before school and sends the result both to the school and to NHS Test and Trace.

School Covid test result form: <https://www.glossopdale.school/studentlft/>

In the event of a positive test result, please email covidpositivetest@glossopdale.school.

Given the easing of restrictions, home testing is even more important. We do not wish to send any individuals or groups of students' home to self-isolate. Identifying asymptomatic cases is one way of avoiding the need to do this, and of avoiding unnecessary spreading of the virus. Please continue to talk to your children about the importance of testing. We will follow up with students where we have not received a twice weekly result.

Arrangements for Year 11 and 13 students

Friday May 28th will be the last day in school for our Year 11 and Year 13 students. I would like to congratulate all Y11 and Y13 students on how they have managed their last 2 years in school during this global pandemic. When they started their GCSE and A Level courses in September 2019 they had no idea about how the world and, in particular, education was going to change. They have been through so much change and uncertainty and have finished their last term applying themselves diligently to their assessments. I cannot commend them enough and wish them every success as they move to the next stage in their lives.

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To mark their last day, Year 11 will have a celebration assembly from 10.30am to 11.30am after which they will leave the site. They do not have to wear uniform for this last day (I think they deserve this!). However, they do need to dress appropriately and may bring in their shirts to sign.

We would really appreciate it if they could donate their blazers and ties to school for us to up-cycle. Any student wishing to do this can hand their blazer and tie to their tutor on the morning of the 28th. Students remaining on in our Sixth Form next year have also received a letter this week inviting them to a transition event at Chester Zoo on the 25th June, where they will participate in a day of activities designed around the themes of independence, tenacity, problem solving and team building.

Year 13 students will celebrate their last day of school from 3.00 - 6.00pm in The Sixth Form View. There will be a celebratory assembly and refreshments with their staff followed by a LaserQuest tournament in the sports hall - which promises to be great fun.

Attendance and term-time holidays

As restrictions begin to lift, some families may be looking to book holidays. As usual, holidays should be planned around school breaks and students **should not** be taken out of school on holiday during term time. Students have already missed out on so much in-school education as a result of the pandemic: we do not want them missing out on any more.

I would like to wish you all a lovely half-term holiday and thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions about any of the above, please do not hesitate to contact us at info@glossopdale.school.

Yours faithfully,

Debbie McGloin
Headteacher