



Ref: RD/NW

18<sup>th</sup> August 2021

## ILFORD COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

Head Teacher: Mrs R Drysdale. BSc NPQH

Fremantle Road  
Barkingside  
Ilford  
Essex IG6 2JB

Tel: 020 8551 6496

Fax: 020 8503 9960

Email: [enquiries@ichs.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@ichs.org.uk)

Web : [www.ichs.org.uk](http://www.ichs.org.uk)

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to congratulate all our students on their GCSE and A Level results. The past two years have been very difficult and I know our students have worked exceptionally hard, with the support of their teachers and parents, to achieve an excellent set of results!

Over the summer break there have been some exciting developments at ICHS. We have redecorated several classrooms and the School Hall. A new Music Suite and Drama Studio have been built and a fitness suite has been installed in the Sports Hall. They look fantastic and we will share pictures and details with parents and carers in our first newsletter of the year.

### Autumn Term 2021

I am writing to confirm details of our return to school for the new term in September. Whilst restrictions may have changed, the pandemic is still ongoing and we will continue to work together to minimise risks and to keep each other safe. A copy of our updated Covid-19 Risk Assessment is available on our website.

- In line with government recommendations, all staff and students will be offered two Covid-19 tests at the start of the school year. These tests are voluntary but we would urge everyone to get tested. By working together in this way, we can help protect students, staff and their families from the virus. We will send you a letter with details of your child's specific appointment times before the start of the school year. In order to facilitate Covid-19 testing we will be operating a staggered start to the new school year. To help you plan ahead:
  - Year 7 will be tested on the morning of Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021. Year 7 will have their first day at school on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021.
  - Year 8 will be tested on the morning of Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021. Year 8 will have their first day at school on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021.
  - Year 9 will be tested on the morning of Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021. Year 9 will have their first day at school on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021.
  - Year 10 will be tested on the morning of Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021. Year 10 will have their first day at school on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021.
  - Year 11 will be tested on the morning of Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021. Year 11 will have their first day at school on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021.
  - Year 12 will be tested on the afternoon of Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021. Year 12 will have their first day at school on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021.

## A Specialist Grammar School



- Year 13 will be tested on the afternoon of Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021. Year 13 will have their first day at school on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021.
- Students will be issued with their new school timetable on their first day back in school.
- The canteen is supplying all our Year 7 students with a free school lunch on their first day at school, Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021.
- Please can Year 12 students who are joining us for the first time as Sixth Form students bring in a packed lunch as we will be setting up their catering accounts during their first few days with us.
- The school gates will open at 8.15am. Lessons will start at 8.45am and students will be able to access the school buildings from 8.40am. The school day will end for all students at 3.15pm. The last ten minutes of the school day are designated for guidance and support. If a student or group of students are not receiving guidance and support they may be dismissed from 3.05pm.
- Students will be able to enter or leave using either the student pedestrian gate on Fremantle Road or the student pedestrian gate next to the carpark on Mossford Lane. The North Field Gate on Mossford Lane will be closed.
- Face coverings will be worn by staff and students in communal areas such as corridors and during assemblies. If students or staff wish to they may wear a face covering in classrooms and during lessons. Please note that students should wear a face mask or a face shield, snoods are not allowed in school.
- Hand hygiene continues to be very important. Hands may be sanitised using soap and water or hand sanitiser. All students will sanitise their hands on entry to the school, and when entering and exiting classrooms.
- We will continue to use our one-way system during change over times and at peak times during the school day.
- In order to minimise the risk of infection, classroom windows will be kept open. A new heating system was installed last summer and is fully operational however with windows open some classrooms may be colder than expected so we encourage all students to dress warmly – a vest under their school shirt, jumper and blazer may make all the difference on a cold winter's day.
- The school has been deep cleaned over the summer holidays and we will continue to provide an enhanced cleaning regime throughout the Autumn Term. Daytime cleaning of communal areas such as touch points and toilets will continue alongside our use of anti-bacterial cleaner Steri7.
- Please ensure students return to school wearing full school uniform.
  - For Year 7 to 11 students, this includes smart black school shoes (not trainers), grey or black school trousers (not jeans or chinos), white shirt, school tie and a school blazer. A plain grey V-necked jumper may be worn under the school blazer if students are cold. A plain black V-necked jumper may be worn under the blazer by students in Year 10 and 11. Cardigans are not permitted and items of school uniform should not have logos.
  - For Year 12 and 13 students, this includes a suit, shoes (not trainers), smart shirt with a collar and a tie. A V-neck jumper may be worn under the suit jacket if students are cold.
  - All students must wear their school ID badge and lanyard around their neck.
  - A polite reminder that trainers, hoodies, snoods and jewellery should not be worn. A single, small, stud earring in each ear is permitted. A small cross and chain or other religious jewellery can be worn inside the school shirt and should not be visible.

## A Specialist Grammar School



- Hairstyles should be smart and not liable to draw attention (natural colour and no shaved lines/patterns etc.). Long hair should be tied back. Facial hair, if worn, should be neatly groomed.
- If students chose to wear religious headwear to school, it should be black in colour.

I look forward to seeing all our students in September!

Yours sincerely,



Mrs R Drysdale  
Headteacher

**A Specialist Grammar School**

