

A few reminders before the new term starts

Before school starts next week, here are a few reminders that were included in the last newsletter of the previous term - plus a few new items of interest. We hope you find them useful.

There is information on uniform, how to be prepared for the new term, term dates for your calendar - and most importantly, when students need to be in school next week! ■

Arrangements for start of term in September

Monday 4 & Tuesday 5 September

Inset days.

Students are **NOT** in school.

Wednesday 6 September

Only Year 7 and Year 12 students in school.

Year 7 students:

9am: Year 7 will arrive – straight into assembly.

Periods 1 & 2: form time and activities.

Period 3: Lessons start.

Normal time for break and lunch.

Year 12 students:

9:00 – 9:15

Registration (Common Room).

9:15 – 9:45

Assembly (Common Room).

9:45 – 11:15

Tutorial – 'Insider Information' from Head Team, Timetables, Av GCSE score and predicted grades.

11:15 – 11:35

Break.

11:35 – 12:35

Critical Thinking Workshop.

12:35 – 13:15

Lunch.

13:15 – 13:30

Guest Speaker.

13:30 – 14:00

Next Steps and Evaluation.

14:00 – 14:45

Enrichment Enrolment (for those absent on induction day) (Common Room).

Thursday 7 September

Years 7, 8 and 9 (key stage 3)

students start school at normal time of 9am.

Years 10 and 11 (key stage 4)

students start school at 10.15am.

Year 7 students will start break and lunchtime earlier than other students.

Year 12 students arrive for lessons in Period 3.

Year 13 students arrive for registration at 9am.

Keep up to date via our website calendar, which is currently being updated.

Normal school day times

09:00 Registration

09:15 Period 1

10:15 Period 2

11:15 Morning break

11:35 Period 3

12:35 Lunch break

1:15 Period 4

2:15 Period 5

3:15 End of school day

Term dates for academic year 2017-18

Pupils return to school:

Wednesday 6th September 2017.

Autumn Term (1st Half):

Wednesday 6 September until Friday 27 October 2017

Half Term Holiday:

Monday 30 October until Friday 3 November 2017

Autumn Term (2nd Half):

Monday 6 November until Friday 22 December 2017

Christmas Holiday:

Monday 25 December 2017 until Friday 5 January 2018

Pupils return to school:

Tuesday 9 January 2018.

Spring Term (1st Half):

Monday 8 January until Friday 16 February 2018

Half Term Holiday:

Monday 19 February until Friday 23 February 2018

Spring Term (2nd Half):

Monday 26 February until Thursday 29 March 2018

Easter Holiday:

Friday 30 March until Friday 13 April 2018

Summer Term (1st Half):

Monday 16 April until Friday 25 May 2018

May Day: Monday 7 May 2018

Half Term Holiday:

Monday 28 May until Friday 1 June 2018

Summer Term (2nd Half):

Monday 4 June until Friday 20 July 2018.

Inset Days - pupils not in school:

4 and 5 September 2017.

Monday 8 January 2018.

Monday 23 & Tuesday 24 July 2018.

Remember to bring your lunch card back

Students are reminded that they should bring back their plastic pass card. Not only does it give them access to the printers but it is used for managing the lunch queues. Students without pass cards will be placed at the back of the lunch queues. ■

Year 9 teaching groups

The new Year 9 students will be taught in mixed groups for their English, arts and humanities subjects. They will still be in their form for registration and it won't affect their science, maths or languages sets or technology groups.

Teaching mixed groups in Year 9 in these subjects has happened here in Silverdale for the past few years and has proved to be very successful.

A lot of time has gone into putting together the right groups and the Key Stage 3 team appreciate your support and feedback on this. ■

Deadline extended for Y9 French trip

The French Department is planning a fun-packed trip to sunny Normandy in France for Y9 pupils from 16 to 20 July 2018. The aim of the visit is to improve the pupils' confidence in French and we will be staying at the highly rated 18th century Château du Molay, near Bayeux in the Normandy countryside. The Château has its own heated outdoor swimming pool and a huge variety of on-site activities, assisted by qualified French-speaking staff.

We plan to visit: a 360° cinema showing a film about World War II; a recently uncovered German war artillery bunker that fired on D-Day landing beaches; a goats' cheese farm; a bakery with hands-on croissant-making; the American military cemetery; a barbeque; frogs and snails evening; crêpe tasting evening.

The deadline extension for deposits of £100 is now Monday 11 September and the total cost is less than last year at £440-455 depending on the number of participants. Further details are available through Mr Ford or Miss Trowbridge in school. ■

Exam dates in October half term

Please be aware that some exams are taking place in the October half term. Please bear in mind if booking holidays. If you are unsure whether they affect your child please ask them to speak to their tutor.

These are:

Wednesday 1 November: GCSE English and NCFE Food and Cookery (am).

Thursday 2 November: GCSE Maths and University admissions exams (am).

Friday 3rd November: GCSE English (am). ■

How to ensure your child is ready for new school year

It is important that students turn up to school ready for the day ahead. This means wearing the correct uniform, having the right equipment, and not letting technology interfere with learning. Below is more information about this, including what will happen if students don't come to school ready to learn.

School uniform

All pupils in Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 wear standard Silverdale dress. Full details of the school uniform can be found on our website at:

www.silverdale.sheffield.sch.uk/uniform

Please note that from September 2017 the rules have changed regarding skirt length. All skirts must now be knee-length or longer.

The website also contains additional guidance about coats, tights, headwear, PE kit, and what happens if the correct uniform is not worn. Please note that there will be daily uniform checks from September.

Please ensure that all uniform is clearly labelled. Our preferred supplier for this is www.easy2name.com as the school receives a cashback from all orders - bringing us much-needed extra funds.

Equipment

Students are expected to come to school with the correct equipment for learning.

Every student **must** bring to school every day:

- a pen,
- a pencil,
- a ruler.

Every student **should** bring to school every day:

- a pencil case,
- a green pen,
- a spare pen,
- an eraser,
- a scientific calculator,
- a glue stick,
- a highlighter.



From September we will be running a School Shop in the library, where students can buy equipment at the start of each day.

All students should put their pen, pencil and ruler on the table in form time and at the start of every lesson.

Chewing gum

We remind you that chewing gum is a banned item in school. Students found with chewing gum will receive detentions.

Use of mobile phones and other electronic devices

Teachers will make a decision in their class about whether mobile phones and electronic devices can be used.

They will display a sign at the front of the class that denotes whether devices can be used, using a simple red and green system.

Headphone must not be visible inside the classroom.

Students will be given one chance to put away a device and remove headphones.

Failure to do so will result in the device/headphones being confiscated by the teacher until the end of the lesson. Refusal to hand over the device will result in the normal behaviour policy being applied.

Behaviour that will be challenged:

- Use of device without the consent of classroom teacher.
- Students charging devices in school.
- Passing devices to others in the classroom.
- Music played in a public space that contains inappropriate or offence content.

We will not tolerate:

- Taking pictures or film without consent.
- Use of social media inside the classroom (unless authorised).
- Students who engage in 'group chats' which are created to target an individual with the intention of being unkind or to cause offence.
- Sharing of inappropriate material online – including material that is racist, homophobic, sexist, includes extremist content or discriminatory language against people with special needs and disabilities.
- Sharing inappropriate material of a sexual content (including sexting).
- Deliberate attempts to contact staff via social media or use their online profile to harass, intimidate, make threats or cause offence to any member of staff and / or adult.
- Using social media to harass, intimidate, make threats or cause offence to another student.

For more information about our behaviour policy, which includes the systems and sanctions we use please see our website at:

www.silverdale.sheffield.sch.uk/behaviourpolicy

New homework and communications apps for parents and students to use from September

In the new academic year we will be using two new electronic apps, to help improve communication with parents and carers. They are called 'Milk' and 'Weduc'.

Milk is for managing homework. We have been using it with Year 7 students and, having learnt from this, we are rolling it out across the whole school.

The second app is called Weduc and is for communicating with parents.

It features a calendar, noticeboard and in-app messaging. It also allows you to view data about your child that you had previously been able to view on the 'InSight' portal via our website.

Both apps can be used on smartphones, tablets and PCs.

We hope that they will improve our communication with you, and provide you with a greater insight into your child's homework and life at school.

We will be sending you further information about how to register for and access these apps in the new term.

In the meantime, you can download the apps to your device.

To download the Milk app go to: <https://my.milkapp.io/app>

To download the Weduc app go to: <https://m.weduc.com/>

Or scan these QR codes in the images below. ■



Come and join other parents in the PTA

Silverdale's PTA (Parents' and Teachers' Association) is meeting soon and wants as many parents and carers as possible to get involved.

It's a great way to meet other people and offers an opportunity to show your support for the school.

Their next meeting is on Wednesday 13 September at 6pm in school. Just come to the main reception.

Everyone is welcome! ■

Buy name labels via our approved provider

Please ensure your child's uniform and property is properly labelled. We get a lot of items in lost property and this will ensure the items get returned to the right person.

Please shop via www.easy2name.com and the school will receive 20% of all purchases.

This is a great way to bring in extra income to the school. Many thanks for your help. ■

Have you joined our School Lottery yet?

Another great way to support school is to join our lottery - which also gives you the chance to win a £25,000 weekly, national prize!

There is also a smaller prize guaranteed every week just for our school community.

To sign up go to: www.yourschool-lottery.co.uk/lottery/school/silverdale-school ■