

Sir Roger Manwood's School



September 2021

Newsletter

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

A very warm welcome to the new academic year, especially to those new to Sir Roger Manwood's School.

All students, in all year groups, have been given a Homework Diary – a reminder that the email address for each Head of Department and Head of Year are included in it.

STAFF NEWS

Congratulations to Miss Lightfoot, Ms Fasham-Hughes and Mr van Poppel who all got married during the holiday. Upon Mr Thomas' retirement, Mrs Hurst is now also our new Designated Safeguarding Lead. As Miss Lightfoot is now Mrs Hurst, her email address has changed accordingly. It can be found inside the front cover of the Homework Diary that each student will be given on their first day back.

We warmly welcome the staff below who joining/ re-joining the Manwood's community:

Teaching

Ms Baker – English

Mr Hougham - PE

Mrs Keeley – French

Mr King – Business and Economics

Mr Martin – Mathematics (a belated welcome to Mr Martin as he joined during last term)

Miss Morelli – Psychology (maternity cover for Mrs Farrow-House)

Miss Wilson - Mathematics

Support

Mrs Berridge – Administration Assistant (Student Receptionist)

Mr Cullen – IT Assistant Manager (a belated welcome to Mr Cullen as he joined during last term)

Mr Kenyon – Cover Assistant

Mr Meadows - Classroom Cover/Teaching Assistant

Mrs Mottershead – Administration Assistant (Admissions and Attendance)

Mrs Saldonido - Chemistry Technician

Mr Symaka - Classroom Cover/Teaching Assistant

GCSE and A LEVEL ART EXHIBITION

The 2021 online Art Exhibition can be viewed via this link: <https://www.artsteps.com/view/6118de30325d2ca0dfb22f16>

It takes a while to open but please be patient – it's worth it! The controls to navigate around the exhibition are fairly intuitive but the i at the top left of the screen links to a tutorial on how to use the site.

Congratulations to all of the artists whose work is shown, and thank you to Mr Grimshaw for creating it.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

Congratulations to all of the students who successfully completed their Gold practice and assessed expeditions during the summer holiday.

START OF TERM ARRANGEMENTS

The School will be very close to being back to operating normal in September.

As virtually every student (and member of staff) has been successfully carrying out lateral flow device (LFD) tests at home since March we do not see the point of setting up an in-school test site. All students (and staff) will therefore be given a pack of 7 tests on their first day back in school in order for them to complete a test once every 4 days, which takes us to the end of September. The government have said that they will then review whether or not to continue with this initiative.

Year group bubbles will be a thing of the past – although they could make a reappearance if there were a large enough outbreak in school. This means teachers will be based in their rooms and students will be moving around the site to their lessons, and sharing toilets and the outside spaces.

However, it is important to realise that the virus is still with us.

The government has put the emphasis in schools on:

- maintaining higher levels of hygiene than was the case pre-pandemic (which means, as last year, more cleaners on site and more far more frequent cleaning of surfaces, toilets, etc) and everyone remembering to hand sanitise on entering a building and before eating,
- and, particularly, on the importance of ventilation. Most of our rooms do have good ventilation but some do not have a cross flow of air, or anywhere near enough ventilation for the size of room and number of occupants. In order to keep our staff and students as safe as we possibly can, the School has spent a significant amount of money on medical-grade air purifiers that will scrub the air in a room once every 15 minutes and screen it with ultraviolet. In addition, we have also bought carbon dioxide monitors for a few other rooms that might occasionally have poor ventilation. You may have seen that the government is going to procure carbon dioxide monitors for schools but we think that by the time they arrive it could already be too late. As per last term, students will be required to be outside during break and lunch times in order that the air inside classrooms can be purged regularly. Unlike last year, students will now be able to sit in the canteen as well as having the option of sitting outside on the new picnic benches. If the weather is inclement, then they will be allowed in classrooms at break and lunch.

Face coverings will no longer be compulsory for pupils, staff or visitors in school. However, although there are times when it would be sensible to wear one, it will be optional for any student or member of staff to do so. Although the Government has removed the requirement to wear face coverings in law, it expects and recommends that they are worn in enclosed and crowded spaces where someone may come into contact with people they do not normally meet - this includes public transport and dedicated transport to school.

All clubs and societies will be back up and running, including sports fixtures. Although day and residential trips in the UK are now possible, the School will not be running any overseas trips for the foreseeable future – they will only resume when international travel is more normal than it currently is and trips can be planned with confidence that they will not be cancelled.

There is to be a big change in how contact tracing is done with students. A student who tests positive on a PCR test will be phoned direct by Test and Trace, not the school, and the student will be required to

pass on to them the names of the students they have been in close contact with over the two days prior to the first appearance of symptoms, or the day of the PCR test, whichever is the earlier. Those identified as a close contact will be informed by NHS Test and Trace that they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test. There is no requirement to self-isolate while awaiting a PCR test result and so pupils and staff identified as close contacts should continue to attend school or college as normal. 18 year-olds will be treated in the same way as children and young people until 6 months after their 18th birthday, to allow them the opportunity to get fully vaccinated. After a student is 18 years and 6 months old they will be subject to the same rules as adults and so, if they choose not to get vaccinated, they will need to self-isolate if identified as a close contact. As last year, any student who is in self-isolation, either due to a positive PCR test or because they have symptoms and are off awaiting a PCR test, will be given access to live lessons in school.

- People in England and Northern Ireland who have had two Covid jabs will now not have to isolate for 10 days if they have contact with a positive case
- They are instead advised to take a PCR test, wear a face covering in enclosed spaces and limit contact with other people - especially the clinically vulnerable
- People who test positive or show symptoms will still be legally required to self isolate for 10 days
- Doctors' union the British Medical Association urges people to remain cautious as rules change, saying we're still in a "precarious situation"

Other differences for September include making the canteen larger and having an outside catering point on the hard standing by the CCF Hut at break and lunch.

	Old canteen door	New canteen door	CCF Hut
Break 11.00 to 11.15	Y7 & Y8	Y9 & Y10	Y11, Y12, Y13
Lunch 12.20 to 12.45	Y7	Y8 & Y9	All years
Lunch 12.45 to 13.05	Y11; Y12; Y13	Y10; Y12; Y13	All years

Note – as before, when free, sixth formers and staff can use the canteen outside of break and lunch. Sixth formers will also have a kettle in the Grange kitchen to make themselves a hot drink.

We will be following a new timing of the day, with break being shorter, but lunch time being an hour earlier than before but going back to its normal length:

8.40 – 9.00	Registration
9.00 – 10.00	Period 1
10.00 – 11.00	Period 2
11.00 – 11.20	Break
11.20 – 12.20	Period 3
12.20 – 13.10	Lunch
13.10 – 13.20	Registration
13.20 – 14.20	Period 4
14.20 – 15.20	Period 5

EXTERNAL EXAMINATIONS

A Level

The overall pass rate was 100%. 83% of all grades were at grade C or above, and 65.5 % at grade B or above. Some of the standout statistics include:

- 58 students gained at least 3 B grades
- 29 students gained at least AAA or better
- 26 students achieved at least A*AA or better
- 17 students achieved at least A*A*A or better
- 3 students achieved 3 A* (Arran Gallagher, Grace Riley, Imogen Thorne)
- 2 students achieved 4 A* grades (Matthew Levett, Calum Nagle)
- Those moving on to higher education will be joining some of the UK's most prestigious universities, including Bath, Birmingham, Bristol, Cambridge, Cardiff, Durham, Edinburgh, Exeter, Glasgow, Imperial, Kent, Kings', Leeds, Loughborough, Nottingham, Oxford, St Andrew's, UCL, Warwick and York

GCSE

96% of all GCSEs were at grade 4 (equivalent to the old C) or above, and 47% were at grade 7 (equivalent to the old A) or above. 97% gained a Standard Pass (grade 4, which is equivalent to the old C) or above in both Mathematics and English, and 84% achieved a Good Pass (grade 5) or better in both Mathematics and English. Other stand out statistics include:

- 63 students achieved 5 or more GCSEs at grade 7 or above
- 60 students achieved 6 or more GCSEs at grade 7 or above
- 49 students achieved 7 or more GCSEs at grade 7 or above (equivalent to an old A)
- 43 students achieved 8 or more GCSEs at grade 7 or above
- 34 students achieved 9 or more GCSEs at grade 7 or above
- 27 students achieved 10 GCSEs at grade 7 or above
- 21 students achieved at least grade 8 or 9 in 9 of their GCSEs (equivalent to an old A*)
- 3 students attained grade 9 in all of their GCSEs (Joshua Saldonido, Sophie Cole, Elizabeth Allen)

GCSE	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	U	Entries
Art & Design	2	4	15	14	5	4	1	1	0	0	46
Biology	13	18	33	26	21	0	0	0	0	0	112
Business	10	5	7	9	15	5	5	1	0	0	57
Chemistry	23	17	31	33	8	0	0	0	0	0	112
Chinese	3	3	2	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	11
Combined Science (each candidate receives 2 grades)	0	1	5	16	15	2	0	0	0	0	39
Computer Science	2	2	7	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	13
Design and Technology	7	2	4	4	10	3	4	1	0	0	34
Drama	2	2	1	1	4	3	0	0	0	0	13
English Language	11	23	27	38	35	12	4	0	1	0	151
English Literature	17	23	25	36	30	9	7	0	4	0	151
French	9	11	7	8	17	7	0	0	0	0	59
Geography	11	9	14	11	8	9	2	1	0	0	65
German	3	2	2	5	8	4	4	4	0	1	33
History	19	13	22	24	17	9	3	3	0	0	110
Mathematics	13	24	29	33	34	15	3	0	0	0	151
Music	10	6	1	4	1	2	0	0	0	0	24
Physical Education	7	6	6	7	5	4	3	1	0	0	39
Physics	15	17	27	35	18	0	0	0	0	0	112
Religious Studies	9	8	12	4	2	2	0	0	0	0	37
Spanish	9	6	4	11	12	6	0	0	0	0	49

A Level	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U	Entries
Art & Design (Fine Art)	2	2	2	1	0	0	0	7
Biology	5	6	9	6	2	3	2	33
Business	0	6	5	5	1	0	0	17
Chemistry	5	8	8	7	2	3	0	33
Chinese	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Economics	2	0	2	3	3	0	0	10
English Literature	7	5	4	2	0	0	0	18
Film Studies	5	0	2	2	0	0	0	9
French	1	3	3	2	0	0	0	9
Further Mathematics	3	1	3	0	0	0	0	7
Geography	2	7	5	9	5	0	0	28
Politics	2	2	4	7	1	0	0	16
D&T: Product Design ADV	2	4	2	3	1	0	0	12
History	2	8	12	8	0	1	0	31
Mathematics	10	6	13	5	5	2	2	43
Philosophy	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	3
Physical Education	0	2	0	2	1	0	0	5
Physics	4	8	4	6	3	3	0	28
Psychology	2	8	6	7	1	0	0	24
Religious Studies	2	5	5	3	0	0	0	15
Spanish	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	5