



A Message from our Executive Principal

Dear Parent/Guardian

I have to say it is really nice to see all the students back and some normality return to school. Although we have still kept some Covid-19 measures in place, we are happy for staff and students not to wear a face mask or shield around the school, with the expectation that we all use hand sanitizers or wash our hands as often as possible.

Excellent Start to the New Academic Year

I would like to say thank you to all of you for the wonderful way your children have started this academic year. They look fantastic and it has been really pleasing to walk around the school and see so many happy, smiling, faces, fully engaged in their learning. It was also lovely to see so many students in Year 7; several of whom we had already met as they had attended our Summer School. I have to say how smart the students look in the revised uniform (pleated skirts and knee length shorts) and I would like to congratulate all students on the excellent start to the new term.

We are really hoping that there will be a lot less disruption to our students' learning this year, now that the regulations about positive Covid-19 cases, and how we deal with them in school, has changed.

We no longer have to send home students, or staff, who have had close contact with the affected person, if they are under 18 years old, or have been double vaccinated. We will, however, be recommending that close contacts get a PCR test done

If your child does display symptoms of Covid-19, we would still ask that you keep them at home and

get a PCR test carried out. This virus has not gone away, but we do need to learn to adapt how we live with it and reduce its spread and impact across the community, both within and outside school.

I had the pleasure of spending some time with our students in Year 12 for their induction into our Sixth Form, which was led by our Sixth Form Leadership Team of Mrs Hinson, Mr Levesley, Mr Waller and Mrs Chinn. Mr Waller set the group one of the most testing and innovative challenges yet, based on MasterChef and 60 Minute Makeover.

I have to say I was overwhelmed by the level of skill and innovation the students had in creating a two-course meal from a box of mystery items and then make and decorate a picnic table. It was fantastic to see the year group working together and really supporting each other. They also had a great deal of fun, as well as learning, from this experience.

I have also spent some time in various different induction sessions and House Assemblies throughout the week, and I have been so impressed by the positive attitude and motivation of our students; they are a real credit to themselves and their families.

LFT Testing

I would like to thank all the staff who have been involved in the LFT testing process, especially over the weekend, so that we could return the students to school in their year groups, as stated in our letters.

The Government had given schools the flexibility to stagger students returning to school this week,



with the option that the whole school did not have to return until Monday 13th September. We did not want to do that and, therefore, organised to test from Thursday 2nd September (one of our training days) right the way through to Friday 10th September.

We introduced this testing system so that we met all the DfE requirements of all students being offered, and taking, two LFT tests within three to five days of each other at the start of the new academic year. We will then revert back to asking students to take home LFT tests from Sunday 12th September, twice a week (usually on a Sunday and a Wednesday) until at least the end of September, when the process will be reviewed.

Although LFT testing may not be 100% accurate, it can give a strong indication of Covid-19 being present in a person and then allow them to be tested through a PCR test, to try and stop the spread of this virus. Anyone testing positive does still need to self isolate for 10 days, regardless of whether they have been vaccinated.

We would ask that you not only report your test results to the NHS, using Test and Trace, but you also report them to us using the link below, so that we are able to take the necessary actions in school as quickly as possible, as we do not receive any information from the NHS.

Instructions for submitting a test result using the School's LFT Google Form:

Navigate to the school website:

www.sandysecondaryschool.com.

1. A popup message will appear, read the text and then click on the 'Google Form' button. If the popup message does not appear, you can find a link under the 'Covid-19 Guidance' tab.
2. This will load up the Google Form to submit the

test

o If the form does not load and a purple box appears with the text 'You Need Permission', please try the following:

Navigate to www.google.com.

✦ In the top right of the page, click on the circle. This should bring up a box with a list of your accounts, including the one you are signed into.

✦ Select your **child's school account**. This will be: 'firstname.lastname@sandysecondary.net'. If this does not appear click the 'add account' button.

✦ Login into the account using your **child's school email** and **password**.

✦ Complete step 1 onwards. This should enable access to the form.

Once the form has loaded, check you are on the correct account, then complete the form. If the current account is wrong, click the switch account button, and log in to the correct student account.

Start of School

Please be aware that school starts at **8.30am** and students should be on the tennis courts and lined up in their tutor groups from **8.25am**, after which time the student gate will be closed by **8.35am**, for safeguarding. Students who arrive after this time will have to go to the main entrance at the front of the school to sign in, giving the reason for their lateness.

Travelling To and From School

Dropping off - please can I ask that, if you are dropping your child(ren) off at the beginning of the school day, this should be by **8.25am**, as this is the time the students should be lined up on the tennis courts. If you are dropping off by car, please drive to the top gate (by the nursery entrance) and go around the roundabout and



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then drop them near the student entrance. We do ask that you do not park outside the school, on the road outside the school, or use the school car park.

Picking up

If you are picking up your child(ren), please can I ask that you do not park on the road that the school is on (Medusa Way) or the other side of the bollards (where Medusa Way continues). Please can you ask your child to meet you further up Engayne Avenue—we now have nearly 1200 children and an increase in the number of buses and these need to be able to travel in and out of the school safely. We would also ask that if you are waiting in the immediate vicinity of the school, you do not block our neighbours driveways and you also turn your engine off, as they can be very disruptive to the local community.

Work on Site

The school has been a hive of activity over the summer. Not only did we have two wonderful weeks of Summer School, which the staff, students who attended and I, all really enjoyed, we have also had some building work start on site. This is for the creation of two new additional classrooms and a new outdoor lunch area, which will be completed by the end of September.

In 2015, when I took over as Principal, the school was not even half full, so it was fantastic to see this year, that are year groups are full and the school has really come alive.

We are in the process of completing plans for a proposed new development for a brand new teaching block and a Football Academy for SEND students, and we hope construction will start by the end of this year for possible completion by the end of 2022. Please be assured this will not disrupt the school or the learning of your children, as we have already put in place proactive measures to

take account of this.

Charity Event

As in previous years, we want to raise as much funding as possible for Macmillan Cancer Support. We are, therefore, we are holding a non-school uniform day with a treat for a donation of £2.00 on Friday 24th September. A letter, giving full details of how your child can get a ticket has been sent out. Copies are also on our Facebook page and our website. We really hope to be able to donate at least £1500 to the charity, and we would be grateful if you could support us, if you are able.

Homework

Homework for students in Years 7 to 11 will start to be issued from Monday 13th September. Please see the letter that Mr Preston, Head of School, has sent regarding this. Again, copies will be on our Facebook pages and our website.

Have a good weekend

Miss K Hayward
Executive Principal

Breakfast Snack Pod

The school snack pod, at the back of school, will now be open in the morning's from **8am** for students to purchase breakfast.





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Break/Lunchtime Seating

Due to the increased popularity of the school we now have more students than ever before. To ensure that we meet the needs of our students we have therefore invested heavily in additional facilities to be used at break and lunch time. We now have a large marquee that is situated at the back of the school and that is open to all students. The marquee is fully enclosed with heating and air conditioning. The marquee also has a large number of tables with seating, as well as space for students who wish to stand. In addition to this, we have opened up more outside spaces for students, with the use of the Tennis Courts for those students who would like to play football.

We have also purchased new outdoor seating for students. Some of the new benches are situated near our second food serving area at the back of the school, while others have been purchased for our memorial garden. The memorial garden is undergoing some further improvements, with a new covered seating area and raised flower beds. This area will be opened up to students for use from October half-term.

We are constantly working to improve our facilities and the site for the benefit of our students, and we look forward to further improvements being made through the completion of our building work which is due to start in the new year.

Mr A Rutter
Vice Principal

Student Absence

In order to safeguard every student, we do ask that parents/guardians contact us **every single day** that your child is absent from school. This can be done in a number of ways:

 **Ring:** 01767 680598, extension 123

 **Text:** 07624 804702

 **Email:** attendance@sandysecondaryschool.com

Thank you for your support in helping us to ensure all students arrive safely at school every morning, when expected.

If your child has an appointment and need to leave school during the day please email attendance@sandysecondaryschool.com to notify us in advance with copies of any letters you may have received. Please ask your child to meet you in the main foyer at the time you have agreed with them.

Breakfast Snack Pod

The school snack pod, at the back of school, will now be open in the morning's from **8am** for students to purchase breakfast.





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Supporting YOU...

Pastoral Team



The Pastoral Support Assistant linked to the House of **Courage** is **Mrs S Ford**. The Houses of Courage and Excellence share an office, which is located on the ground floor, near Student Reception.

Courage Team

House of Courage comprises the Science and Design Technology departments, which are located at the rear of the school on the ground floor. The **House Achievement Leader for Courage** is **Mr G McAdam**, whose office is located in the office on the ground floor, close to Student Services.



The Pastoral Support Assistant linked to the House of **Determination** is **Mrs P Buckley**. The Houses of Determination and Inspiration share an office, which is located on the first floor, off the English department first floor foyer.

Determination Team

House of Determination comprises the English, Mathematics and Humanities departments, which are on the first, second and third floors. The **House Achievement Leader for Determination** is **Mr S Pink**, whose office is located on the first floor, off the English department first floor foyer.



Supporting YOU...

Pastoral Team



The Pastoral Support Assistant linked to the House of **Excellence** is **Mrs A Theobald**. The Houses of Courage and Excellence share an office, which is located on the ground floor, near Student Reception.

Excellence Team

House of Excellence comprises the Modern Foreign Languages, Art and Physical Education departments. The **House Achievement Leader for Excellence** is **Miss E Broughton**, whose office is located on office on the ground floor, close to Student Services.



The Pastoral Support Assistant linked to the House of **Inspiration** is **Mrs C Tuffin**. The Houses of Determination and Inspiration share an office, which is located on the first floor, off the English department first floor foyer.

Inspiration Team

House of Inspiration comprises the Performing Arts, Business Studies and ICT Departments which are all on the main corridor of the Ground Floor. The **House Achievement Leader for Inspiration** is **Miss J Burke**, whose office is located on the first floor, off the English department first floor foyer.





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Our School Uniform

Sandy Secondary School
PE KIT
2021



Unisex
Panel PE Shorts

Unisex
Sports Polo Shirt

Boys
Reversible Rugby Shirt

Unisex
Fleece Top

Optional Unisex
Track Pants



Shop Opening Hours:
Monday-Friday: 9am - 5pm
Saturday: 9am - 1pm
Sunday: CLOSED

Visit Our Shop At:
Unit 12, Barton Ind Est, Faldre Road,
Barton Le Clay, Beds, MK45 4RP,
Or
Online Ordering:
www.prestigedesignwww.co.uk
email: sales@prestigedesignwww.co.uk



Sandy Secondary School
Uniform 2021



Boys Fit
Sandy Secondary School
Embroidered Badge
Black Blazer 1894

Girls Fit
Sandy Secondary School
Embroidered Badge
Black Blazer 1896

Unisex Jumper
Sandy Secondary School
Collar Trim

Unisex
Clip On
Sandy
Secondary
School
House Tie

Optional Items

Girls Fit City Shorts
Boys Fit Bermuda Shorts
Sandy Secondary School
Embroidered Badge

For Instore Sizing Appointments
Please Book Online At
www.prestigedesignwww.co.uk
Sandy Secondary School Uniform
Available Instore Or Online.
Home Delivery Service Available
Alternatively Free Shop Collection.
New For 2021 &
Also Available,
Free Delivery Direct To
School.



Girls Fit
Sandy Secondary School
Embroidered Badge
PLEATED Skirt
PD974 & 972 Black

Girls Fit
Sandy Secondary School
Embroidered Badge
PLEATED Skirt
PD974 & 972 Black

Girls Fit
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Girls Fit
Sandy Secondary School
Embroidered Badge
PLEATED Skirt
PD974 & 972 Black

Unit 12, Barton Industrial Estate
Faldre Road, Barton Le Clay, Beds,
MK45 4RP.
01582 883222



PLEASE ENSURE ALL SCHOOL UNIFORM IS CLEARLY NAMED



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Fantastic 15 Stationery



- Plain black school bag—large enough to hold A4 folders
- Reading book
- Pencil case
- Black pens
- Purple pen
- Set of colouring pencils
- HB Pencils
- Rubber
- Glue stick
- Highlighters
- 15cm ruler
- Protractor
- Scientific calculator
- Timetable (initially supplied by school—should be copied into planner)
- School planner (supplied by school)

NB—a pencil sharpener will be available in classrooms, compasses will be provided, when needed, by the maths teacher. We ask that students do not bring these items into school.



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KS3 DRAMA CLUB

DRAMA STUDIO

Every Tuesday 3pm-3:45pm



For more information please talk to
Miss Durowse or Miss McDowall



01767 680598
www.sandysecondaryschool.com

This year's school production is...

The WIZARD of OZ



Auditions will take place after school on Monday 13th September.

If you would like to audition for the chorus or a smaller speaking role you will be required from 3-4pm.

If you would like to go for a main part you will be required from 3-5pm.



There is a meeting with further information about what to bring and prepare in the Theatre Hall at the start of lunchtime on Wednesday 8th September.



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Football Development Centre Sandy Sports Centre – SG19 1BL by 4 Corner Coaching



Individual skills

UEFA coaches

Team play

**High Quality Football Coaching by very experienced coaches
who supplement your own club sessions.**

Developing - Technical skills – Physical skills – Psychological skills – Social skills

Start Back Date - Friday 17th September 2021
£4 per session – 12 week block of Development



Times/ages: 5-6pm = 5 - 9 years & 6-7pm = 10 - 14 years

**UEFA B coaches – Youth Award Level 3 - Enhanced DBS - Safeguarding
BFAS (Basic First Aid for Sport)**

**Contact: Natasha – 07957980492 – natasha@4cornercoaching.co.uk
www.4cornercoaching.co.uk**





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Girls Only Football Development Centre by 4 Corner Coaching



Individual skills

UEFA coaches

High Quality Football Coaching by very experienced coaches
who supplement your own club sessions.

Developing - **Technical skills** – **Physical skills** – **Psychological skills** – **Social skills**

Start Back Date - Friday 17th September 2021
£4 per session – 12 week block of Development
At Sandy Sports Centre – SG19 1BL.

Times/ages: **6-7pm = 10 - 15 years**

UEFA B coaches – Youth Award Level 3 - Enhanced DBS - Safeguarding
BFAS (Basic First Aid for Sport)

Contact: **Natasha** – **07957980492** – natasha@4cornercoaching.co.uk
www.4cornercoaching.co.uk





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PLAY **RUGBY!** AT BIGGLESWADE RUGBY CLUB

Mini Rugby Teams (Mixed)

Under 6 to Under 12 (changes to single sex teams at U12s)
Training and Matches: Sunday mornings
& Wed evenings (U10s upwards)

Girls Rugby Teams

Under 12 to Under 18
Training and Matches: Sun mornings & Wed evenings

Boys Rugby Teams

Under 13 to Colts
Training and Matches: Sun mornings & Wed evenings

Qualified and DBS Checked Coaches

Ladies Team

Training: Monday and Friday evenings

 Biggleswade Ladies Rugby  @BiggyWRugby

Mens Teams

1st XV, Development XV, 3rd XV
Training: Tuesday and Thursday evenings

 Biggleswade Rugby  @BiggyRugby

Fully Licenced Bar, Function Room, Squash Courts

Biggleswade Rugby Union Football Club
is a registered Community Amateur Sports Club

www.biggleswaderugby.co.uk



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Ts & Cs apply. Limited time only.
Full prize draw T&Cs apply: www.sll.co.uk/offers



**NO
JOINING
FEE!**

**WIN
A YEAR
FREE!**

**LET'S GET
STARTED!**

Gym, swim, classes & more... Plus, the chance to win a year's membership!

lifestyles @ saxon

Saxon Pool & Leisure Centre
Saxon Drive, Biggleswade, Beds SG18 8SU
01767433133 enquiries.saxon@sll.co.uk

lifestyles @ sandy

Sandy Sports Centre
Engayne Avenue, Sandy, Beds SG19 1BL
01767 681 872 enquiries.sandy@sll.co.uk

This facility is managed in Partnership with



01767 680598
www.sandysecondaryschool.com



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Ts & Cs apply. Limited time only.
Full prize draw Ts&Cs apply: www.sll.co.uk/offers

**NO
JOINING
FEE!**

**WIN
A YEAR
FREE!**

- ✓ Gym
- ✓ Swim
- ✓ Classes



Let us support you on your fitness journey and pay no joining fee when you sign up today! As well as this fantastic offer, you'll also be entered into a prize draw to win a year's free membership!

We have a great range of memberships to allow you to choose the perfect one for you depending on what activities you prefer. Join us online or visit us in centre.



Unlimited Gym
Technogym
fitness suite



Swimming
in public &
lane times



Workout Classes
weekly workout
classes



Lifestyles App
view timetables
& book sessions



Free Parking
free parking
available

NO CONTRACT

NO JOINING FEE

JOIN NOW

lifestyles @ saxon

Saxon Pool & Leisure Centre
Saxon Drive, Biggleswade, Beds SG18 8SU
01767433133 enquiries.saxon@sll.co.uk

lifestyles @ sandy

Sandy Sports Centre
Engayne Avenue, Sandy, Beds SG19 1BL
01767 681 872 enquiries.sandy@sll.co.uk





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Academic Calendar: 2021-2022

Sandy Secondary School Academic Calendar - 2021/2022 – Set Final

	School Holiday	Open Day	Bank Holiday	Pupil Day	Training Day
September 2021	6, 13, 20, 27	7, 14, 21, 28	1, 8, 15, 22, 29	2, 9, 16, 23, 30	3, 10, 17, 24, 31
October 2021	4, 11, 18, 25	5, 12, 19, 26	6, 13, 20, 27	7, 14, 21, 28	1, 8, 15, 22, 29
November 2021	1, 8, 15, 22, 29	2, 9, 16, 23, 30	3, 10, 17, 24	4, 11, 18, 25	5, 12, 19, 26
December 2021	6, 13, 20, 27	7, 14, 21, 28	1, 8, 15, 22, 29	2, 9, 16, 23, 30	3, 10, 17, 24, 31
January 2022	3, 10, 17, 24, 31	4, 11, 18, 25	5, 12, 19, 26	6, 13, 20, 27	7, 14, 21, 28
February 2022	7, 14, 21, 28	1, 8, 15, 22	2, 9, 16, 23	3, 10, 17, 24	4, 11, 18, 25
March 2022	7, 14, 21, 28	1, 8, 15, 22, 29	2, 9, 16, 23, 30	3, 10, 17, 24, 31	4, 11, 18, 25
April 2022	4, 11, 18, 25	5, 12, 19, 26	6, 13, 20, 27	7, 14, 21, 28	1, 8, 15, 22, 29
May 2022	2, 9, 16, 23, 30	3, 10, 17, 24, 31	4, 11, 18, 25	5, 12, 19, 26	6, 13, 20, 27
June 2022	6, 13, 20, 27	7, 14, 21, 28	1, 8, 15, 22, 29	2, 9, 16, 23, 30	3, 10, 17, 24
July 2022	4, 11, 18, 25	5, 12, 19, 26	6, 13, 20, 27	7, 14, 21, 28	1, 8, 15, 22, 29
August 2022	1, 8, 15, 22, 29	2, 9, 16, 23, 30	3, 10, 17, 24, 31	4, 11, 18, 25	5, 12, 19, 26

Term 1 - 73 days Term 2 - 59 days Term 3 - 63 days = 195 days

Pupil contact will amount to 190 of the 195 days. Schools will be closed on five of the 195 days. These five days will enable teacher training to take place in accordance with Teachers' Conditions of Service. Training days set as follows: Wednesday 1st September and Thursday 2nd September 2021 (2 days), Friday 26th November 2021 (1 day), Wednesday 20th and Thursday 21st July 2022 (2 days).

The law requires that a parent ensures that their child receives a full and efficient education; if you enrol your child at a school, then you must ensure that they attend regularly. Regular school attendance is defined as being 'in accordance with the rules prescribed by the school' and means that if the school is open for 190 days, then this is what your child is expected to attend. We know that excellent school attendance has a positive effect on pupil outcomes.

