

2 September 2022

Dear Parents / Carers

I am delighted to be welcoming your child(ren) back for the 2022-23 Academic Year and thought that a brief FAQ might be helpful for us all.

1. When is my child expected to return?

We are offering a phased return this year for all year groups to enable us to set the highest expectations and allow our new Y7 cohort to settle in a little before everyone else returns. Please see the schedule below to find out when your child(ren) should be in school.

	Mon 5th Sep	Tue 6th Sep	Wed 7th Sep	Thu 8th Sep
Y7	ALL DAY	ALL DAY	ALL DAY	ALL DAY
Y8	Not in school	8.30-11.30	Not in school	ALL DAY
Y9	Not in school	Not in school	8.30-11.30	ALL DAY
Y10	Not in school	Not in school	12.00-3.00	ALL DAY
Y11	Not in school	12.00-3.00	Not in school	ALL DAY

During our phased return, on Tuesday 6th and Wednesday 7th the bus company will also be running additional services.

Tuesday 6th September

Great Houghton 11:10am to Netherwood Academy 11:50am
Netherwood Academy 11:55am to Great Houghton 12:35pm

Wednesday 7th September

Great Houghton 11:10am to Netherwood Academy 11:50am
Netherwood Academy 11:55am to Great Houghton 12:35pm

2. What does the normal school day look like?

Times	Year 7, Year 10, Year 11	Year 8, Year 9
08:30 - 08:50	Registration & Form Time (Breakfast available from 8.15)	
08:50 - 09:55	Period 1	
09:55 - 11:15	Break 09:55 - 10:10	Period 2 09:55 – 11:00
	Period 2 10:10 – 11:15	Break 11:00 - 11:15
11:15 - 12:20	Period 3	
12:20 - 13:25	Lunch 12:20 - 12:50	Period 4 12:20 – 13:25
	Period 4 12:50 – 13:25	Lunch 13:25 - 13:55
13:55 - 15:00	Period 5	
15:00 - 16:00	Period 6 (Y10/Y11) Intervention Extra-Curricular activities (Y7)	Extra-Curricular activities

3. What time is the school bus?

Service Level Required, B449/22002/0

1 September 2022 until 31 July 2027

TIMETABLES

Monday to Friday

Great Houghton ▶ Wombwell

See notes:	SD
Great Houghton, High St/Mount Av	0731
Great Houghton, High St/Crabtree Dr	0733
Great Houghton, Rotherham Rd/Thurnscoe Ln	0738
Little Houghton, Middlecliff Ln/Ings Ln	0744
Middlecliffe, Rotherham Rd/Little Houghton Post Office	0747
Darfield, Nanny Marr Rd/School St	0757
Wombwell, Dove Valley Way/Netherwood Academy	0810

Monday to Friday

Wombwell ▶ Thurnscoe

See notes:	M	NM
Wombwell, Dove Valley Way/Netherwood Academy	1447	1515
Darfield, Nanny Marr Rd/Ilisley Rd	1454	1522
Middlecliffe, Rotherham Rd/Middlecliff Ln	1458	1526
Little Houghton, Middlecliff Ln/Ings Ln	1501	1529
Great Houghton, High St/Mount Av	1507	1535
Great Houghton, High St/Crabtree Dr	1512	1540
Thurnscoe, Houghton Rd/Shepherd Ln	1517	1545

No Service Saturday or Sunday

Notes:

M – Monday schooldays only.

NM – Tuesday to Friday schooldays only.

SD – Schooldays only.

Route description:

Great Houghton – Wombwell (Netherwood Academy)

Rotherham Road, High Street, Lister Row bus turning area, High Street, Rotherham Road, Middlecliffe Lane, Ings Lane, bus turning area, Middlecliffe Lane, Rotherham Road, Doncaster Road, Nanny Marr Road, Garden Street, Snape Hill Road, George Street, Stonyford Road, Station Road, Mitchells Way, Dove Valley Way.

Wombwell (Netherwood Academy) – Great Houghton

Dove Valley Way, Mitchells Way, Station Road, Stonyford Road, George Street, Snape Hill Road, Garden Street, Nanny Marr Road, Doncaster Road, Rotherham Road, Middlecliffe Lane, Ings Lane, bus turning area, Middlecliffe Lane, Rotherham Road, High Street, Lister Row bus turning area, High Street, Rotherham Road.

Bus stops:

All Travel South Yorkshire bus stops to be observed.

Destination display:

449 Netherwood Academy

449 Great Houghton

4. What uniform does my child need?

Your child(ren) should have a Netherwood Blazer, Tie and PE top which can be purchased from Vortex Clothing in Barnsley. They will need white collared shirts and plain black shorts or leggings for PE, plain black trousers, and plain black polishable shoes. If your child wishes to wear a jumper they can purchase a Netherwood jumper or they may wear a plain black V neck jumper provided it does not have a logo on it. (A Round neck or a logo will not be allowed, even a small black logo will not be permitted).

Please note that failure to bring PE Kit on the relevant day will incur a 30 minute detention.

Reminder: Skirts have been removed from the approved uniform list as discussed earlier in the year. If your child has a Netherwood skirt and has not already claimed a £10 Vortex Voucher from school then please ask your child to bring the skirt to reception where it can be traded in for a voucher. (One voucher per child, not per skirt).

If you have any concerns regarding uniform please contact school on 01226 272000 and provide contact details to be passed on to Mrs F Gwynnette or email me directly at Fiona.Gwynnette@astreanetherwood.org

5. What jewellery can my child wear?

One small pair of stud earrings and one watch. If your child(ren) arrives to school wearing any other items they will be confiscated and held in the school safe until 3.05pm on the last day of the half term when parents/carers will be asked to collect them. Please encourage your child(ren) to only wear permitted items to school and save all other jewellery for evenings and weekends.

6. Can they bring their phone to school?

Yes, however it needs to be switched off and in their bag during the school day from entry at the gate to exit at the gate. If a phone is seen or heard during the school day it will be confiscated and placed in the school safe until 3.05pm the next day and parents/carers will need to collect it from reception. Please encourage your child to leave their phone in their bag throughout the school day.

Please note that if a child is found to be using a smart watch for anything other than telling the time then it too will follow this process.

7. What if I need to contact my child or they need to contact me?

Should there be any reason you need to speak to your child during the school day please contact school reception on 01226 272000 and a member of staff can pass on a message. This can be immediate for emergencies or at break/lunch for non-emergencies to reduce the interruptions to student lessons. Please do not call your child's mobile during the day.

If they need to contact you they may ask reception at break or lunch to contact you or if they are ill their teacher will press on-call and a member of staff will assess the situation and make contact home on their behalf. We need to keep a record of all contact home, especially if a child is unwell so please encourage your child to follow this procedure to allow us to look after them fully.

8. What equipment should they bring?

In order to complete necessary tasks all students are expected to bring 5 things with them every day. Their planner, which they will receive on their first day back, a black pen, a purple pen, a pencil and a ruler. There will be an opportunity in school to buy additional equipment should they lose anything they need. Not having these items will incur a 30 minute same day detention so please check that your child has the correct equipment.

9. What happens if my child receives a detention?

Parents / Carers will be notified at 1:55pm via MCAS (My Child At School) of any same day detentions issued. Detentions for one incident will be 30 minutes, 2 incidents in a day = 1 hour and 3 or more incidents = 2 hour duration which will end at 5:00pm.

Students who are in the RESET or REFLECTION Rooms will end the day at 5:00pm also.

10. What do I do if my child is not well or has an appointment?

If your child is so unwell that they are unable to come to school then you must call the attendance office on 01226 272000 and follow the instructions for student absence. You must do this on each day your child is absent. Please do not keep your child off school for minor illnesses, it is so important that they are in school and every day counts. If they do come to school and are genuinely unwell we will make contact with you.

Appointments should be made outside of school hours wherever possible however we appreciate this cannot always happen. If your child is able to attend before and/or after their appointment then it is important that they do so and are only missing for a minimal amount of time.

11. What is the expectation on school attendance?

We want all of our students to aim for a minimum of 97% attendance in this academic year and there will be rewards for those who achieve and for those who improve throughout the year.

12. Is my child eligible for Free School Meals?

Follow this link to see if you qualify. <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

Your child may also get free school meals if you get any of these benefits and your child is both:

- younger than the [compulsory age for starting school](#)
- in full-time education

If your child is eligible for free school meals, they'll remain eligible until they finish the phase of schooling (primary or secondary) they're in on 31 March 2023.

13. Who should I get in contact with if I need to ask a question or discuss a concern?

Your first point of contact should always be the Year Teams. Every Year Team has a Progress Leader who is a teaching member of staff and a Student Manager who is a non-teaching member of staff. Please bare in mind that both have a lot of daily responsibilities and meetings / lessons on a daily basis so please allow them time to read and respond to any questions or concerns. Each year group has a Senior Leadership Team link and should anything need to be passed on to SLT the Student Manager / Progress Leader will alert them and pass on any relevant details.

Year Group	Student Manager	Progress Leader
7	Mr M Kneissl mark.kneissl@astreanetherwood.org	Mrs H Hedley helen.hedley@astreanetherwood.org
8	Miss L Robinson louise.robinson@astreanetherwood.org	Mr J Utley jamie.utley@astreanetherwood.org
9	Ms J Neave julia.neave@astreanetherwood.org Mr S Hunter stuart.hunter@astreanetherwood.org	Mr C Snelling christopher.snelling@astreanetherwood.org
10	Mr J Batchelor james.batchelor@astreanetherwood.org	Mrs R Kershaw rebecca.kershaw@astreanetherwood.org
11	Mr S Coulson shaun.coulson@astreanetherwood.org	Mrs K Wharton kimberley.wharton@astreanetherwood.org

You may also have specific questions which could be discussed with the following:

Role	Contact
Y7 Transition Manager	Ms. R Brennan rachel.brennan@astreanetherwood.org
Behaviour Manager	Mr A Davis adam.davis@astreanetherwood.org

Should you have any further questions or concerns please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours faithfully



Mrs Fiona Gwynnette
Assistant Principal