

July 2021



Orchard Mead Academy
Keyham Lane West | Hamilton
Leicester | LE5 1RT
t. 0116 241 3371
e. info@orchard-tmet.uk
w. www.orchard-tmet.uk

Dear Parent/Carers,

Executive Principal: Mr M Oldman

At Orchard Mead Academy, it is our mission to inspire our pupils to grow and succeed. We are proud of our school community and work tirelessly to provide opportunities for our students to thrive, we want to forge meaningful partnerships with our families and to take our place as a vital part of our student futures. I want to thank you for the support you have shown the school over the last year. The next academic year offers an opportunity for us to reconnect, inspire and enjoy the next steps of Orchard Meads improvement journey. I can't wait to meet you all and look forward to working together to make a positive difference.

Last day of term

Please see below the arrangements for the last day of term:

Years 7 and 10	8:30-9:00 Tutor Time Lesson 1-3 and break as per normal Students leave site at 12:15 FSM students to pick up lunches before they leave
Years 8 and 9	9:00-12:15 Lessons 1-3 and break as normal 12:15-12:45 Tutor Time Students leave Site at 12:45 FSM students to pick up lunches before they leave

No holidays in term time

After what has been a challenging year, we understand that parents will be looking forward to the Summer holidays. The Summer holidays provide a chance for parents to spend quality time with their children and we understand that families might be wishing to travel abroad. We understand that time away with families is exceptionally important and this is why children have the benefit of 6 weeks of summer holiday a year.

We wish to remind parents that holidays abroad should be taken during these periods so that they are not requested during term time. Term time absence impacts greatly on the education of children who miss pro-longed periods of learning. Any further absences from school on top of the National Lockdowns we have faced over the past year, will impact greatly on your child's learning. As such, we want to clarify once again, that term-time holidays will **not be authorised** at Orchard Mead. You as parents put your trust in us to educate your children to the best of our ability and in order to do this, we ask that your children attend school daily.

If you are considering a holiday abroad over the Summer Holidays, we remind parents to pay close attention to travel guidance and restrictions. India remains on the red list for travel and it is highly unlikely that this will come off of the red list anytime soon. We would not recommend travelling to India for any reason at present.



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If you do decide to travel abroad as a family over the summer holidays, you must ensure that you return to the UK and complete any necessary quarantining before the beginning of term; advice is changing daily. The school year for children begins on Wednesday 25th August for Year 7 and Thursday 26th August for all other year groups. For children that are not in school for the beginning of term and where parents have not provided sufficient evidence, cases will be escalated to the Education Welfare Service.

When will my child return to school in the Autumn term?

Year 7 Students will begin to return to school from **Wednesday 25th August**.

All other students will return to school from **Thursday 26th August**.

At present the government are in the process of sharing a mass testing programme to operate in secondary schools on our return. We will share details of this towards the end of the summer break.

Year 7 are invited in on their own on the first day as they missed out on all their induction visits so we want them to have a day on their own to get used to the school. This staged introduction to school life will enable all students to become familiar with new safety measures and their designated areas within the school as there are new routines for all to get used to

To enable them to adjust to being in school and get used to the new routines necessitated by the government guidance we will be inviting year groups in as follows:

Date	Year Group	Start Time
Wednesday 25th August	Year 7	8:40 am
Thursday 26 th August	Year 7, 8, 9	8 :40 am
	Year 10 and 11	10 am
Friday 27 th August	All students from all year groups	Usual start time
Monday 30 th August	School closed for Bank Holiday	

What are the staggered start and finish times and why are we implementing them? We have adjusted school start and finish times for each year group to support social distancing and prevent public transport and the school entrance becoming over crowded. We have 1200 students arriving and leaving each day.

Year Group	Entrance / Exit Area	Start Time	Finish Time
Year 7	Student Reception Gate- Straight to Science Block	8.40am	2.55pm
Year 8	Student Reception Gate – Straight to Maths area	8.40am	2.55pm
Year 9	Sports Hall Gate- Straight to MFL area	8.40am	2.55pm
Year 10	Sports Hall Gate- Line up in Tutor Groups	8.30am	2.45pm
Year 11	Student Reception Gate- Line up in Tutor Groups	8.30am	2.45pm

Additional information will be issued as we progress through the summer, in regard to the latest covid updates, bubbles and on-site arrangements, such as uniform information etc.

Have a wonderful summer break, I am looking forward to meeting you all in the autumn term.



Mr M Oldman
Executive Principal

School Timetable 2021 - 2022

Year	Tutor Time	P1	P2 / Break		P3	Lunch / P4		P5	Tutor	School ends	
7	8.40 – 9.00	9.00-10.00	10.00-10.30	Break 10.30-10.45	10.45-11.15	11.15-12.15	12.15-12.45	Lunch 1.15-1.45	1.45-2.45	2.45-2.55	2.55
8	8.40 – 9.00	9.00-10.00	10.00-11.00	Break 11.00-11.15	11.15-12.15	12.15-1.15	Lunch 1.15-1.45	1.45-2.45	2.45-2.55	2.55	
9	8.40 – 9.00	9.00-10.00	Break 10.00-10.15	10.15-11.15	11.15-12.15	Lunch 12.15 – 12.45	12.45 – 1.45	1.45-2.45	2.45-2.55	2.55	
10	8.30 – 9.00	9.00-10.00	10.00-11.00	Break 11.00-11.15	11.15-12.15	12.15-1.15	Lunch 1.15-1.45	1.45-2.45		2.45	
11	8.30 – 9.00	9.00-10.00	Break 10.00-10.15	10.15-11.15	11.15-12.15	Lunch 12.15 – 12.45	12.45 – 1.45	1.45-2.45		2.45	

