

August 26, 2022



Secondary: Back to school notices

Dear Parents,

One final weekend of the holiday left to go before we open our doors to a new academic year, I hope your sons and daughters are raring to go. It was our pleasure to show many new families around the school today and a school is always a much happier place with students in the building. We will be providing opportunities for parents to come onto site at regular intervals during the first term to meet with the secondary team. These 'coffee mornings' will have a different focus each week and will be hosted by a member of the Secondary Leadership Team along with key subject and pastoral leaders. There will also be a weekly newsletter which will share the successes of the week, important notices, as well as some features from our school leaders to keep parents up to date with new initiatives and why we are introducing them to our students.

We are looking forward to showing our returning students the changes that have been made to the school building over the summer break. We have moved around locations of some of the tutor rooms so we are asking for all students to head to the secondary sports hall on Monday morning where they will be met by members of staff who will direct them to their new tutor room. Please can students set their alarms a few minutes earlier on Monday morning to allow themselves time to find their tutor rooms; we ask for all students to be in their form room for **7:50am** every day.

The first lesson on Monday morning will be spent with form tutors where students will have their timetables shared with them. Please note that no PE kit needed for any students on day 1 so we expect all students to attend in full school uniform.

Tutor groups

The Engage portal is now open and will contain details of which tutor group your child has been assigned to.

As students enter the secondary school we deliberately look to change the focus from the 'tutor group' level to the year level, with a focus upon broadening student friendship groups and providing opportunities to work with their peers across the whole year group – especially



SOUTH VIEW SCHOOL

as students are no longer taught in form groups but are streamed across certain subjects, as well as they start to make options in relation to the curriculum during Year 9.

The form groups are built ensuring a mix of students, taking into account their previous performances, backgrounds and compulsory curriculum areas. At SVS, we do not move students around the groups based upon friendship requests, the reality is that over 50% of the timetable is not taught in these groups, and there are common times for catching up during break, lunch and ECAs – finally, even when students are in the same class as their friends (this will happen), the seating plan will be determined by educational purposes, not social ones.

Keeping in contact

We will continue to promote independence within our students, and we will be issuing them with a planner for them to keep track of their school week, including their homework tasks and assessments. Notices and important lesson information for students will be communicated in their planners or via Microsoft Teams, and sufficient guidance will be given to students during the first week to ensure they are proficient in using the platform correctly. Please do speak with your child and ask them to show you their 'Teams' and talk you through what they are learning in class. For parents, we will communicate key messages and weekly updates via the Engage app, and should any queries arise that your son/daughter cannot answer then below are the details of how all our staff can be contacted via email with a full list of email contacts is provided at the end of this letter. The member of staff to whom you make contact will respond before the end of the following school day at the latest.

Walk Home Alone

On Wednesday, we wrote to parents with new guidance on the Walk Home Alone Passes. [Please read it here](#). Note, we will need a signed paper consent form to administer a WHA pass. Parents can read the form, following the link above. It can be printed at home or collected from Reception – please do read the guidance in the above letter prior to signing and do note that we will not allow students to leave site until the signed confirmation is received. Thank you in advance for your support on this matter.

Masks, sanitisation and water

The wearing of masks that fully cover the nose and mouth are required by all persons whilst on the SVS campus aged 6 years or over. Masks must be worn at all times inside buildings with the exception of when eating or drinking. The school provides sanitiser bottles and wall mounted

stations throughout the campus and regular sanitisation is recommended and encouraged. **Please ensure that your child has a stock of masks to last them the school day.**

Children will be regularly directed to sanitise and/or wash their hands and cooperation is valued and expected. At the end of a lesson where students will be moving to another location within the school, students will support their teacher with sanitising the desks and chairs before they leave the room. Please can you speak with your child about this to support us in keeping our whole school community safe. Instructions on sanitising desks will be regularly discussed with students during the first few days of the term.

Keeping hydrated, particularly during summer months, is a key element of wellbeing and helps to keep students focused on learning in the classroom. We do have water coolers around school, but I would advise that students attend school with a full bottle at the start of each day.

SVS Secondary list of equipment

For each school day, students should have

- school ID (lanyard)
- pen, pencil, ruler, eraser
- calculator
- planner (will be given on first day by form tutor)
- reading book
- device and charger
 - please note a mobile phone is not classified as a device and we are a mobile phone free school between the hours of 7.30am and 3.35pm.
 - please see this [document](#) for more specific information about the device requirements.

SVS Secondary Uniform

We have made some changes to our uniform policy from last year so please take a minute to read through the guidelines detailed below if you haven't already seen them.

- Students should wear shirt and SVS tie to and from school every day. We will be expanding the changing facilities on the school site for PE days.
- Students should wear their PE kit to school for squad training and we expect them to get changed into their shirt and tie for the school day.
- White shirt (SVS or plain) and either grey or black trousers. Skirts should be either grey or black and be knee length.
- Traditional black school shoes are now to be worn by all students. Trainers are no longer permitted except for PE lessons.
- Chino shorts are no longer acceptable for Key Stage 4 students. Key stage 3 students may wear grey or black shorts. Khaki or stone-coloured shorts are no longer permitted.

- Shirts should be tucked in, top button done up and the tie worn correctly to an appropriate length.
- Natural hair colours only and students with long hair will be asked to tie it up for practical activities.
- Minimal jewellery and make-up may be worn.
- Students are to wear SVS fleeces, jackets and jumpers only. Plain grey or black non SVS fleeces, jackets and jumpers are not permitted.
- Each student's individual lanyard is also a key part of the school uniform and we will insist on students wearing them around school.

Meet the tutor evening

On Wednesday 14th September, we will be inviting parents of all Secondary year groups into school for an evening we are calling 'Meet the tutor'. The main purpose of the evening will be for parents to meet and speak with your child's form tutor. Our form tutors are the first port of call for all students in the morning and are a key point of contact for parents. Their role is to focus on pupils' welfare, mental health and overall progress in both academic and pastoral contexts. Whilst the 'Meet the tutor' is not an academic parent's evening our team of curriculum leaders, members of our inclusion team and our school counsellor will be in attendance should you have any questions that you would like to discuss in person. The Counsellor's role is to back the tutors and Heads of Year in terms of monitoring mental health and wellbeing. In addition, the counsellor is available to deal with specific challenges that some pupils may be experiencing. The evening will begin with a presentation from the secondary school's senior leadership team.

Kind regards



Jon Pennock

Key contact details

Please find below the list of contacts for our secondary leadership, teaching and support teams. Each one of us will be pleased to communicate with you, however, please take note of the specific roles within the school for each staff member so that your query can be best directed and answered as accurately and quickly as possible. As parents, your first port of call should be your child's form tutor.

Role	Name	Email
Head of Secondary	Jonathan Pennock	secondaryhead@southview.ae
Assistant Head – Learning and Teaching	Alexandra Gordon	alexandra.gordon@southview.ae
Assistant Head – Pastoral care	Stuart Macpherson	stuart.macpherson@southview.ae
Head of whole school inclusion (SLT)	Laura Stokes	laura.stokes@southview.ae

Head of Year 7 and Teacher of Geography	Catherine Rahilly	catherine.rahilly@southview.ae
7A Form Tutor and Teacher of History	Jonathan Cook	jonathan.cook@southview.ae
7B Form Tutor and Teacher of Mathematics	Joanna Griffin	joanna.griffin@southview.ae
7C Form Tutor and Teacher of Science	Ryan Stredny	ryan.stredny@southview.ae
7D Form Tutor and Teacher of English	Gemma Lynch	gemma.lynch@southview.ae

Head of Year 8 and teacher of PE	Ryan Bladen	ryan.bladen@southview.ae
8A Form Tutor and Head of Computing	Izak Marais	izak.marais@southview.ae
8B Form Tutor and Teacher of Music	Noelle McMahon	noelle.mcmahon@southview.ae
8C Form Tutor and Teacher of Art	Jennifer Butcher	jennifer.butcher@southview.ae
8D Form Tutor and Teacher of English	Eesha Matharu	eesha.matharu@southview.ae

Head of Year 9 and teacher of PE	Nicola Quick	nicola.quick@southview.ae
9A Form Tutor and Teacher of Business	Hannah Dugan	hannah.dugan@southview.ae
9B Form Tutor and Teacher of Mathematics	Gareth Breeze	william.breeze@southview.ae
9C Form Tutor and Teacher of Spanish	Louise O'Sullivan	louise.osullivan@southview.ae

Head of Year 10 and teacher of English	Thomas Gavin	thomas.gavin@southview.ae
10A Form Tutor and Teacher of PE	James Sanderson	james.sanderson@southview.ae
10B Form Tutor and Teacher of Mathematics	Wendy Richardson	wendy.richardson@southview.ae

Head of Year 11	Stuart Macpherson	stuart.macpherson@southview.ae
11A form tutor and Head of The Arts	Charlene Rock	charlene.rock@southview.ae

Secondary SENCO	Sean Fenton	sean.fenton@southview.ae
School counsellor	Sarah Benaud	Counsellor@southview.ae
Head of English	Fiona Pearson	fiona.pearson@southview.ae
Head of Mathematics	Francesca Di Meo-Smith	francesca.dimeosmith@southview.ae
Head of Science	Alexandra Gordon	alexandra.gordon@southview.ae
Head of Humanities	Stacey Coy	stacey.coy@southview.ae
Head of Arabic	Ahmed Hassan	ahmed.hassan@southview.ae
Head of Islamic Studies	Abdelhamed Kerba	abdelhamed.kerba@southview.ae
Head of Modern Foreign Languages	Irene Pereira	irene.pereira@southview.ae
Head of PE	Sonia Teodoro	sonia.teodoro@southview.ae
Teacher of Science	Lucy Torrance	lucy.torrance@southview.ae
Teacher of Science	Mathias Mulumba	mulumba.mathias@southview.ae
Teacher of Arabic	Iman Moustafa	iman.moustafa@southview.ae
Teacher of Arabic	Mays Haimur	mays.haimur@southview.ae
Teacher of Arabic	Fatima Banafea	fatima.banafea@southview.ae
Teacher of Islamic Studies	Hossam Bekhit	hossam.bekhit@southview.ae
Teacher of Islamic Studies	Shaimaa Hassan	shaimaa.hassan@southview.ae
Teacher of Islamic Studies	Amal Kader	amal.abdelkader@southview.ae