

WAITAKERE COLLEGE STUDENTS

WELCOME TO 2021 YEAR 9

STARTING DATES

As with previous years, we have staggered the start of Term 1 so that we can spend important quality time with each year level as they arrive.

Friday	5 February	8.40 am - 3.05 pm	All Year 9 students first day. Please come in full school uniform. Welcome and Peer Mentoring Activities Day (Parents welcome to attend Powhiri 8.40-10.30) - Please bring your BYOD Device today -
Tuesday	9 February	8.40 am - 3.05 pm	Timetabled Classes for Day 3

BYOD (Bring your own device) – Chromebooks are the recommended device

All Year 9 students are asked to bring their device on the first day of school (**Friday 5 February**) to log on to the school network and begin their e-learning programme. **If you do not have a device yet, please see the school website for more information.** The school requests that parents provide a digital device (chromebook or similar). This allows students to access work online at home in addition to any school learning.

BYOD – ENGRAVING

To help with security around devices, we encourage them to be named. Inscribing on a device incorrectly can cause the warranty to be invalidated. We have organised a local company, who can engrave your device safely, to come in to the school, mid February, to engrave your computers at a cost of about \$15 per device. The date for this will be advertised through the daily bulletin at the beginning of the year.

ID CARDS

All students will be photographed in early March for ID cards and for the school's records. Although ID cards are not compulsory, students may require them for discounted fares on buses and trains or concessions at movies. ID cards cost **\$10.00** and students can order and pay for these at the accounts department.

LOCKERS

With the introduction of the BYOD programme, the school has invested in lockers to provide a safe place for students to be able to store their computers and bags. These lockers and a lock are available for hire at a cost of \$20 per year. There are also free casual day lockers in the gymnasium for when students are doing PE or Sport. For the casual day lockers students will need to provide their own padlock.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION PROGRAMME

This term all our Year 9 students will be involved in an exciting outdoor trip as part of their learning program. In March, each Year 9 class will spend a day at Cornwallis. Students will be involved in team building activities, a bush walk and a swim in a waterhole.

STATIONERY

The school no longer sells stationery. For some subjects, workbooks will be required and these will be given out in class.

SCHOOL DONATION & FEES

The school's Board of Trustees has decided to continue to take part in the NZ Government's Donations Scheme. The purpose of this is to lower the cost of education to families.

- There will be no request for a school donation.
- We will only be asking families to meet course material costs where there is a take home component. This will result in considerable savings for you and your family.
- Course workbooks and on-line learning programs will also now be funded by the school where these items are an expectation for the whole class. Students will need to purchase their own optional revision guides.
- The costs of day trips that are a core part of the curriculum will now also be covered by the school. Optional and overnight trips will still need to be paid for by families.
- Students and families will still be expected to meet the costs for sports, arts and cultural activities.

SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS

The main school office will reopen on **Monday 25th January** with normal hours of 8am until 4pm.

The accounts department will also reopen on **Monday 25th January** with normal hours of 8.30 until 3.15pm.

During the uniform sale days the accounts department will be open the same hours as the uniform shop and will be situated in C9.

CANTEEN

This will be open for lunch and normal sales from **Friday, 5th February**.

BUSES

School buses will be running from **Wednesday, 3rd February**. If you have any queries please contact the office on 836 7890.

YEAR 9 BBQ

We would like to invite you to the Year 9 BBQ to be held on **Wednesday, 24th February**. We will send a letter home closer to the time with full details. The BBQ is a good opportunity to come in and meet your child's Tutor class teacher and other senior staff in a relaxed informal environment.

TRAFFIC INFORMATION

With the new layout of the front of the school there are no drop offs or pickups within the school grounds. Please encourage your child to use the Swanson Road exits or to meet you at a prearranged area away from the school.

UNIFORM

Uniform is purchased through the school at the Student Centre. If you know what you need, please go and pay at accounts first, then take your receipt to the Student Centre to try on and collect. Please see the times and dates below for our uniform sale days.

UNIFORM SALES 2021

Tuesday 26 January	9.00 am – 6.00 pm
Wednesday 27 January	9.00 am – 6.00 pm
Thursday 28 January	9.00 am – 6.00 pm
Friday 29 January	9.00 am – 3.00 pm

Then during the school day 8.30 am to 3.15 pm.

Please note that Accounts will be in C9 during uniform sales days.

COVID 19

The above information is based on the school being at level 1. Please check the school website prior to the beginning of the year for updates.