



Bexley Grammar School
Danson Lane, Welling, Kent, DA16 2BL
A Specialist Language College
and IB World School
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Headteacher: Mr S C Elphick

1 September 2021

Dear year 7 Parent/Carer,

Mrs Belton-Owen, Director of Studies for year 7 wrote to you before the summer break with all the information you need for your child's start at 'big school' on Friday and Mr Gilmore, Deputy Head, wrote to parents of most of the year group who attended our summer school with some additional reminders. I write with similar reminders and some clarifications of expectations, especially around Covid issues.

The Covid guidance for schools is considerably more relaxed than previously (see the latest [risk assessment](#) on our website) which makes it even more important that we ensure that **anyone with Covid-19 does not come into school**. There are three ways to support us in keeping the school free of infection.

1. **Testing - if you have given consent, your child will take a test on Friday and then again next week.** Home self-testing should then take place twice-weekly at home from the end of next week (more details to follow). Only those who have consented for testing in school can be issued with test kits by the school for home testing.
2. **Being alert to Covid symptoms. If your child displays Covid symptoms it is vital that you keep your child at home** and contact attendance at school as you would for any other absence.
3. **Ensure that your child has a face covering with them every day.** Although face coverings are no longer required in schools, there may be circumstances where we ask students to wear them for a short period of time.

The start of school arrangements are as follows:

Friday 3rd September

Students with consent will test in school, arriving at the times listed below. (Students for whom consent has not been given should arrive at the same times and will join their tutor until their colleagues have been tested - **we are not allowed to test them without your consent.**) After their tests, students will spend some time with their form tutor on organisational and induction matters and will then begin lessons later in the day.

The staggered start times are as follows:

Form	Arrival time at school on Friday 3rd September
7 STA	8.30am
7 MPM	8.45am
7 JMP	9.00am
7 JOO	9.15am
7 FTM	9.30am
7 MAM	9.45am

Please arrange for your child to arrive at school as close to the time stated above and no earlier than 5 minutes beforehand. Students should enter the school via the gate closest to Danson Park - **parents may not enter the school site**. If you are driving, please park your car well away from the school, with consideration for our neighbours, and walk the final 5 or 10 minutes. Please do **not** congregate at the gate or block the pavement.

At the end of the day, students will be dismissed by tutor group, according to the following staggered times from the same gate nearest to Danson Park:

3:00pm: STA, MPM; 3:10pm: JMP, FTM; 3:20pm: MAM, JOO

If you are collecting your child, we urge you to plan to meet your child well away from the gate, further along the road in either direction, bearing in mind our pleas to drivers (see above). Please do **not** congregate at the gate or block the pavement.

From Monday 6th September

- Monday 6th September - normal school day from 8.30 am to 3.00 pm.
- Tuesday 7th September - normal school day with a second test during the morning.

From Monday 6th September pupils will enter and leave through the pedestrian gates and pedestrian entrance that will be sign-posted "Year 7 Entrance".

The school canteen will be open from Friday 3rd September serving hot and cold food and will be taking cash until students are set up with their ParentPay accounts. Students are also welcome to bring a packed lunch if they prefer.

I look forward to welcoming your child to Bexley Grammar School this week.

Best wishes,



Steve Elphick
Headteacher