

**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

#### Dear Y7 Parents/Carers,

We have made arrangements to offer every Year 7 student a Friday morning in school for some face to face contact before the end of this term. Mr Skinner and his team have been working hard to produce a programme of four sessions that will include one-to-one contact with one of the pastoral team, some work on study skills, and activities to promote mental and physical wellbeing. In addition to the planned activities, we know it will be beneficial for students to reunite with members of the form and indeed, to be back, physically, on the school site again, before the summer break.

In very brief summary, we are using the next three Fridays when no other students are in school (years 10 & 12 are in from Monday to Thursday) to bring two forms (three on one day) into school at a time to ensure that we can maintain social distancing and have small group activities, very much along the lines of how we are operating years 10 & 12 in safe 'bubbles', minimising contact between the 'bubbles'.

# Summary of how to prepare for your Friday in school

- Do not come to school if you have any relevant symptoms.
- The morning will run from 8.40 am to 12.00 pm
- Prepare your PE kit to wear on the day
- What to bring:
  - sufficient water to last the day and perhaps a snack for a break (no lunch required and no lunch is provided this is a morning session only)
  - your own pen, pencil and planner

# Journey to and from school

- If you are experiencing any of the Coronavirus symptoms you must not come to school under any circumstances, child or parent. You should isolate at home and arrange to have a test: <u>Stay at home guidance</u>.
- Students should avoid using public transport where possible. Instead try to walk, cycle, or be dropped off by car: <u>Safer travel guidance</u>. If you do use public transport you must wear a face covering.
- Parents accompanying children to school are asked to do so singly and to stay well away
  from the school if dropping off or picking up. (There are additional parking restrictions
  currently in force outside the school which will help to remind you to drop off and pick up
  well away from the school gates.) A short walk from a drop-off/pick-up point further away
  would be a healthy way to begin the day.
- Please note that parents will only be allowed on the school site by prior appointment.

- We will stagger departure by a few minutes either side of 12pm at the end of the morning to minimise mixing on the journey home.
- Please remember that regular handwashing and good respiratory hygiene ("catch it, bin it, kill it") are vital to reduce the risk of spreading this disease.
- Everyone should KEEP LEFT and keep their distance in corridors and on staircases in moving around the school.

## General protective measures/logistical arrangements

- Any student who becomes unwell with Covid-19 symptoms will be isolated immediately and sent home as soon as arrangements can be made.
- First Aid cover is being provided.
- Enhanced cleaning regimes have been arranged to concentrate on fewer areas with greater frequency, including toilet areas, door handles, desks, chairs, computer keyboards and mice, etc.
- Any classrooms used will be well ventilated and doors propped open.
- Current government guidance does not recommend use of PPE in schools; staff and students, once in a classroom, should not normally be wearing a face covering.
- Signage regarding hand-washing, respiratory hygiene, social distancing, etc. will be prominently displayed in key locations.
- There will be a maximum of 96 students on site on any one day. Fire evacuation procedures
  have been reviewed and revised; social distancing can be maintained safely in the event of a
  fire.
- Any student who deliberately contravenes social distancing or puts others in danger by disregarding infection control measures (eg. intentional physical contact, spitting, etc.) will be isolated immediately and sent home.

### The plan for the morning

- Students should arrive by 8.40 am in their PE kit at the usual pedestrian gate and make their way down the side of the school all the way to the Le Feuvre playground at the back of the school where they will be greeted and divided into groups (bubbles).
- Each group will follow a carousel of activities as outlined in the first paragraph above.
- Students will be reminded about regular hand washing and cleaning materials will be provided at key locations during their activities. They will be allocated specific toilets to be used and our enhanced cleaning programme will be in force.

#### Specific tutor group details

Below are the arrangements for when each tutor group will attend. Subject staff will not be setting work for the pupils of those forms on the Fridays that they are in. The sessions that they take part in will take the place of the pupils' work for that day.

- Friday 26th June 7NSS and 7MEM
- Friday 3rd July 7AMM and 7MCA
- Friday 10th July 7JEA, 7VJA and 7MGG

Please remember to attend in PE kit, NOT school uniform.

Finally, we will be completing a report for each student before the end of the term, close to our usual format but with adjustments in the absence of regular classroom teaching. With parents' evening cancelled this term, we hope that this Friday face to face contact for students and a

school report on academic progress will supplement the daily communication your child has with his/her teachers.

Your child is not receiving this letter so please share its contents with her/him. We look forward to welcoming your child back into school before the summer break.

Yours sincerely,

Adam Skinner
Director of Studies

Steve Elphick Headteacher

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