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Bexley Grammar School

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1 September 2021

Dear year 11 Parent/Carer,

I wrote on 21st July informing you of arrangements for the start of the new school year. I write again with a few clarifications and reminders to ensure a smooth start for us all.

The Covid guidance for schools is considerably more relaxed than previously (see the latest <u>risk</u> <u>assessment</u> 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.

- Testing please ensure that your child takes a home self-test today, using the LFD kits
 we distributed before we finished in the summer. We will be testing your child twice on
 their return to school (see below) and self-testing should then continue twice-weekly at
 home from the end of next week. If we can catch anyone infectious before they come into
 school for a test on Friday, we will have reduced the risk of spread already.
- 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 in the usual way.
- 3. **Ensure that your child has a face covering with them every day.** Although face coverings are no longer required, there may be circumstances where we ask students to wear them for a short period of time.

The start of term arrangements are as follows:

Thursday 2nd September - test and return home

Students with consent will test in school (please arrive in school uniform) according to this timetable **and then return home** immediately. Students should bring their canteen name card, as before, to speed up the process of registering.

11NEQ (10PLR) at 12.00pm 11ERR at 12.15pm 11DLH (10MMC) at 12.30pm 11SMK at 12.45pm 11THW at 1.00pm 11ATS at 1.15pm

Students for whom consent has not been given will begin school on Monday as below.

Monday 6th September - Normal day but with extended form time during period 1.

Normal day in school starting promptly at **8.30 a.m. with registration** in tutor rooms as follows:

11NEQ (10PLR) in J8

11ERR in G4

11DLH (10MMC) in M11

11SMK in G12

11THW in G5

11ATS in L4

The canteen will be available as usual.

Students with consent will take their second test during the day.

Thank you to everyone who completed the <u>Ofsted Parent View survey</u> - a very positive picture has emerged for us to celebrate and build upon. If you haven't yet completed the survey or a second member of your household would like to, only a unique email address is required for a very brief registration to prevent misuse.

I look forward to welcoming your child back this week.

Best wishes.

Steve Elphick