



Bishop Ullathorne Catholic School

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Headteacher: Mr C Billings

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Dear parent/ carer

Return to school

Thank you for your patience while we completed our preparations for re-opening in September. We are all delighted to be re-opening again for all students this academic year. As previously stated, the start of term will be slightly staggered, as follows:

Tuesday 1 September	Staff INSET day
Wednesday 2 September	Year 7 students only
Thursday 3 September	Year 7 students only
Friday 4 September	Year 7, 10 and 12 students only
Monday 7 September	All students

NEW ROUTINES

As part of our risk assessment and commitment to ensuring that the school is as safe as possible for our whole community we have made the following adjustments. Students will need to be aware of these before arriving on school site:

- All students are now in year group 'bubbles'. This means that they must stay with students from their own year group at all times. On arrival in school, students should move directly to their playground and remain there until the bell for the start of the day. All students will be provided with a pin badge to help members of the school community quickly identify their year group. It is essential that students wear these at all times.
- We have introduced a one way system in school. This is to reduce crowding in corridors. Students will be provided with details of the one way system when they arrive on their first day. Most routes around the school will require students to move outside of the building.
Students will be required to wear face coverings during movement around the school site between lessons.
- Students will still be accessing a full curriculum in school with all of their lessons. To facilitate this, students will be asked to wipe down their desk at the start of every lesson.
- We will be trying to minimise the opportunities for cross contamination as much as possible in school. With this in mind, it is essential that students bring their own stationery into school, including: **a pen, pencil, eraser, mathematics equipment, glue stick, purple pen and highlighter**. Teachers will not be able to provide this equipment in lessons.
- Students will no longer be automatically eating their lunch in the canteen. Each year group will be assigned a space in the school for lunch.
- Year 7, 8 and 9 students will have lunch from 11am to 11.30am. Year 10, 11 and 12 students will have lunch from 1.30pm to 2pm. It would be a good idea for students in Year 10, 11 and 12 to bring a snack and bottle of water to sustain them before their allocated lunch time.

- As far as possible, we will be encouraging students to bring in a packed lunch. There will be a limited canteen service available. Students who wish to access a hot meal will be able to book into the canteen. However, there will only be limited availability for this service.
- Students eligible for free school meals will be provided with a packed lunch.
- The end of the day will be slightly staggered to reduce the amount of inter-year group contact. Year groups will be dismissed in five minute intervals from 2.50pm.
- Year groups will be assigned to specific toilets. Only a limited number of students will be allowed in at any time.

TRANSPORT

Sadly, at this time I am unable to provide any concrete information regarding school buses. We are still strongly advising students to avoid using public transport where possible. We have developed a new secure bike area in school and we will be providing cycling proficiency training for students in September. However, I understand that some students may have no choice but to use bus services. We have been informed by Stagecoach that there will be some form of Number 9 service running. The updated timetable for this is attached. Stagecoach has also informed us that it has taken over the Number 60 and 703 service which was being run by Travel de Courcey. If students previously used these services, they will now need a Stagecoach bus pass.

This morning, we have been informed that Travel de Courcey will **no longer be operating**. We are urgently exploring other possibilities for school transport. However, please be aware that this means that there are no school buses running at this time.

Students travelling on a public bus will need to wear a face covering at all times. These must be removed as soon as students arrive on the school site and either stored in a plastic bag or disposed of in a lidded bin.

HYGIENE AND CLEANING ROUTINES

Hand sanitisers have been installed outside every classroom. In addition, we have installed several sinks around the site to ensure that students are able to regularly wash their hands. Good hand hygiene is still the best way of combatting the coronavirus. Students will be asked to maintain a one metre distance from their peers at all times, where possible. Staff will also be expected to maintain a two metre distance from students at all times, where practicable and safe to do so. We have worked with our cleaning contractors to make sure that an enhanced cleaning programme is used in school. This will include the use of a disinfectant 'fogger' in all classrooms at least once a week.

PE AND ENRICHMENT PROGRAMMES

Sport and physical activity are an essential part of any child's development. We will continue to offer full access to curricular physical education where possible. To allow this to happen, all PE lessons will take place outside, where possible. On days when students have PE, they should come into school wearing their full PE kit. When the weather becomes colder this should also include a pair of black jogging bottoms. This reduces the need for students to congregate in groups indoors.

Sadly, until restrictions are eased further we will not be able to offer any enrichment or extracurricular clubs. This is to ensure that we maintain year group bubbles.

UNIFORM

On days when students do not have PE, they will be expected to be in full school uniform. Students in the sixth form should wear suitable business dress. This helps to maintain our professional and fully inclusive standards.



Your child will notice several changes to the school on their return in September. These will all be clearly signposted. One thing that has not changed will be the care, guidance and support we provide for your child. We understand that we will all need to show great patience and understanding as we get used to the new systems in school. It will be a disorientating time but, working together, I am certain that we will soon get used to the new 'normal'.

In the first few weeks of school, we will be hosting some virtual information evenings to provide you with key messages and answer any queries you may have about the return to school. I will write with details of these once school has started again.

In the meantime, may I take this opportunity to thank you for your continued understanding. I hope that you enjoy the last few days of the Summer holiday. I look forward to welcoming back all of our children for the start of the new academic year.

Yours sincerely



C Billings
Headteacher