

# The Bishops' Blue Coat Church of England High School

*Known Nurtured Inspired*

*Headteacher: Ian Wilson BA PGCE MA NPQH*



10<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear Student/Parent,

As indicated in my letter to you last week, we continue to be open for **childcare provision** until the end of term. We are looking forward to welcoming a small number of form groups back and this letter contains the details and practicalities you need to know. Our plans for wider re-opening have taken into consideration the possible risks and there will be many changes on site to ensure everyone's safety. The discussions and permissions necessary for Bishops' risk assessments have concluded that we are able to move ahead. I am delighted that we will be able to see more of our students in school again and we will do everything we can to ensure a safe and happy return.

## On site learning

Our site provides the opportunity to operate as mini schools as well as continue online learning and online caring - four schools in effect. These will be

- Year 12 from 15<sup>th</sup> June
- Year 10 from 22<sup>nd</sup> June
- Key worker and Vulnerable student **childcare provision** continues to be offered with anticipated increased numbers of students accessing this provision
- Wider staff working from site to support provision

Each school will have a designated staff team and timetable. They will work from different buildings, have staggered breaktimes and lunchtimes and supervised handwashing breaks throughout the day. Each school aims to practise social distancing in line with the measures the government is asking everyone to adopt in public and in workplaces, including keeping students 2 metres apart from each other where possible, small designated groups to avoid mixing and limiting contact to designated adults and students specified by the timetable.

## Key worker and Vulnerable student childcare provision

To support social distancing and avoid mixing we will be introducing a Key Stage 3 (Year 7/Year 8) and a Key Stage 4 (Year 9/Year 10) group. Groups will exceed no more than 12 students. The Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 groups will work from different spaces but will follow the same timetable. The timetable for the rest of this term is outlined below

## Monday to Friday w/c 22<sup>nd</sup> June

Time	Focus
8.40 - 8.45	Handwashing and entry to Lecture Theatre
8.45 - 9.15	Form time and registration in Lecture Theatre
9.15 - 11.10	Learning from home tasks completed
11.10 - 11.30	Break
11.30 - 1.00pm	Learning from home tasks completed
1.00 - 1.40	Lunch
1.40 - 3.15	Breakout sessions with variety of activities depending on rooming, resources, and staff

- Supervised handwashing breaks will be staggered throughout the day in designated toilets.
- Breaktimes and lunchtimes will also be staggered to allow for safe, socially distant recreation. These will take place in designated areas outside.
- Students should not bring in textbooks or exercise books from home. Learning materials will be provided in school for onsite learning.

#### **Travel to and from school**

- If you are dropping off/picking up your child, please use the school car park. Please drop off by the bus bays and remain in your car. School will be open for students from 8.30am. Students must walk straight through the student entrance gates and into C Block via the amphitheatre entrance. Staff will be available to guide and supervise handwashing before entry to the Lecture Theatre.
- All contact with school will need to be via telephone or email – our current risk assessment only allows for essential adults to enter the site.
- This link is useful: ***Travel advice for parents and pupils***. The Department for Transport has issued [advice on how parents and pupils can travel to school safely](#) as part of the #TravelSafely campaign. Resources have been developed to help parents, students, and staff to stay safe on the public transport network. This includes information on how to cycle and walk safely, where possible.
- Please insist that your child travels to and from school safely and adheres to social distancing.

#### **BEST – Bishops’ Expected Standards**

We appreciate that the ways students have been learning has been very different to learning before school closures. Student wellbeing is central to the onsite pastoral provision and we are very mindful of the circumstance of students who attend our childcare provision. Their attitude and efforts and sense of responsibility has been exceptional. To support additional students on site we have written down some of the health and safety expectations your child has been following in Bishops’ Expected Standard (BEST) appendix. This document sets out what additional actions the school have taken alongside phased onsite learning.

We base our Bishops’ Expected Standards (BEST) on the second of Jesus’ Great Commandments: ‘Love your neighbour as you love yourself’. It is particularly important, given the current social situation that we continue to nurture a sense of responsibility, a sense of community and encourage students to act wisely in making positive choices. Morning registration will provide opportunities to brief students about BEST.

#### **Equipping on site learning**

- Ensure that your child is fully equipped for learning.
- Ensure that your child has a packed lunch including drinks for the day; there will be a packed lunch option for students receiving free school meals. Your child should also have a filled water bottle.
- Ensure that your child has a clean uniform each day – parents are advised to avoid sending their child to school in clothing that cannot be machine washed in line with government guidance. For this reason we don’t require students to wear a tie or a blazer. We do require students to wear school shirts, trousers, skirts, and school shoes as per uniform policy. PPE masks for students are not currently recommended in government guidance. School will not provide students with PPE. If students wear PPE they will be expected to wear masks that are suitable for school and are worn and disposed of safely.

- Inform the school if your child is unable to attend their designated day to [attendance@bishopschester.co.uk](mailto:attendance@bishopschester.co.uk) detailing reasons for absence. Further details regarding attendance are included in the attached BEST appendix.

## Symptoms

If your child has any of the following symptoms they must not attend, please inform Bishops' and arrange for a Coronavirus test by emailing <[cheshireccg.covid19@nhs.net](mailto:cheshireccg.covid19@nhs.net)> to arrange a test at The Countess of Chester Hospital

- A fever/high temperature
- A persistent dry cough
- Loss of taste and sense of smell

If you, your child, or any member of your family display any of the symptoms above – then your child must not come to school. You should book a test and if the test is positive you must again inform school.

If a student feels ill or develops symptoms during the day:

- They must speak to their teacher straight away.
- They will be placed in a designated medical isolation room and a parent will be called to collect immediately.
- You will be expected to take your child for a test if the illness is linked to the symptoms above and inform the school immediately.

Children who are clinically extremely vulnerable or shielding family members who are clinically extremely vulnerable:

- A handful of parents with children and family members in this position have already contacted us to say that the medical advice they have received is that their child should not return to school at this point. We understand this and online work will of course continue.
- Please indicate in the attached google forms whether your child or someone in your family is clinically extremely vulnerable or shielding.
- If your child falls into this category and you wish for them to return to school then you will need to seek medical guidance and email me to say that this has been done and they are able to come in to school. A risk assessment will then be undertaken.

## Risk assessing on site provision

We have worked carefully during lockdown to keep Health & Safety and Safeguarding under review to ensure that our wider opening for students is as safe as possible.

We adhere to the government advice set out in the [guidance](#) on implementing protective measures in education and childcare settings and are summarised below:

- *Controlling the transmission of the disease*: minimising contact with children and adults who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school.

- *Management and control through personal hygiene:* cleaning hands more often than usual - wash hands thoroughly for 20 seconds with running water and soap and dry them thoroughly or use alcohol hand rub or sanitiser ensuring that all parts of the hands are covered.
- *Ensuring good respiratory hygiene:* promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach.
- *Enhanced cleaning regimes:* cleaning frequently touched surfaces often using standard products, such as detergents and bleach.
- *Minimising contact and mixing:* altering, as much as possible, the environment (such as classroom layout) and timetables (such as staggered break times).

### **Show My Homework tasks completed in school**

During their time in school, students follow the daily tasks set across their Learning from Home timetable. Students work in a computer suite. There is always an adult in the room who can guide students through their tasks and support with any question's students have with their learning. There are three tasks set each daily which take approximately an hour for students to complete. Students have been provided with revision sites and resources which they can engage with in addition to the tasks set and all subject teachers can be contacted through the Show My Homework messaging feature should students have any questions or require additional work.

In addition to this, students are provided with a range of website resources to further development as well as time to catch up with any outstanding Learning from Home tasks.

I am so proud of the students who have attended this provision in recent weeks. Their resilience, positive attitude, sense of community and teamwork has shone through. As we move to the next phase of this provision with increased numbers of students on site, I hope this information updates. The changes in this letter will take effect from 22nd June.

As we look to a new phase of learning, I am reminded by one of the most beautiful and yet challenging verses in the Old Testament, from the prophet Isaiah – '*Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.*' (Isaiah 43.19). We continue to work as school community to overcome challenges and continue to offer experiences that know, nurture, and inspire our children. They remain at the heart of all we are doing.

We are collectively committed to ensure that students are able to return safely and that the measures taken are there to protect all in our school community.

With very best wishes,

Ian Wilson  
**Headteacher**