

The Bishops' Blue Coat Church of England High School

Known Nurtured Inspired

Headteacher: Ian Wilson BA PGCE MA NPQH



16th July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are nearing the end of a very challenging academic year, one in which young people have been subject to significant changes and disruption. The Government has announced measures and schools have responded positively, adapting access to learning, working in bubbles, coping with reduced staffing levels and making practical subjects work in classrooms or online, the list goes on.

Alongside the educational changes, many staff have had to deal with personal difficulties including illness, bereavement of friends and family and perhaps like so many, home educating their own children alongside doing their job. Covid has affected us all in different ways. Yet as I bring together this end of term information I am struck by the resilience and positivity of the school community. We are all much better at using IT, we have found new ways of keeping in touch with each other and there have been countless acts of kindness and consideration.

This week: Buzz of Learning Week:

Our Buzz of Learning week this year is focussing on British Values and specifically our curriculum principles of respect and dignity. Throughout the week there are a range of lessons exploring these very important themes. We also have the opportunity for some external agencies to support these themes. All year groups will be receiving a presentation on knife crime by a nurse clinician from Salford Royal Hospital. Schools in Warrington and Salford have talked about the impact this has had. Our Youth Engagement Officer PC Roberts believes that this will support the work police and schools are doing locally to raise awareness about the dangers of carrying a knife.

Next week:

Bishops' Games: This year's Games will be a scaled back event as we will be missing the sporting power of Year 8 and Year 10. The events will be split across the remaining school days alongside classroom activities. Students currently self-isolating will be able to access some of these classroom tasks through SatchelOne as well as engaging with the tasks from the Learning Programmes on our Remote Page for their timetabled subjects.

The students in school are asked to wear PE kit on the day of their sports events. The forecast looks set to be warm on the last few days, please can students remember to bring sun cream and bottled water to stay hydrated.

- Year 7 will be competing Monday
- Year 9 will be competing Wednesday

Academic work: Reports for Year 7, 8 and 9 will be shared with parents electronically next week. There is a wealth of online material which we have invested in to support learning should large groups be required to self-isolate and this is available for the summer also. You may hear your child make

reference to [MyMaths](#), [MathsWatch](#), [Seneca](#), [Tassomai](#) and for year 10 [GCSE Pod](#) and Satchel One can be used in addition to the work listed in the [Remote Learning Portal](#) (Password: Remote2021).

Continuation of Measures from the 19th: The Government's Step 4 on our road to recovery begins on the 19th however for simplicity and safety's sake we will be continuing our current measures until the end of term with students and staff:

- Wearing a face mask indoors and on dedicated transport to school
- Practicing social distancing (2 metre +) from members of the community not in their bubble
- Sanitising hands when entering a classroom or space
- Continuing to remain in their designated year group bubble for break and lunch times
- Should your child tests positive between now and their return to school, please continue to notify testresult@bishopschester.co.uk in addition to NHS track and trace.

Wednesday 21st timings for the end of the school day: The school day will be finishing at 1.15pm on Wednesday 21st and buses will depart at 1.20pm. As we have done throughout the school year, students will have a staggered exit - Year 7 at 1.10pm and Year 9: 1:15pm

Students who are unable to leave site at 1.15pm can wait in the library with a member of staff until they are able to be collected.

Summer information

All the help available for families can be found on the 'Useful resources and information for the school holidays' webpage on the Council website: [Useful resources and information for the school holidays](#)

School uniform supplier Monkhouse will be onsite at Bishops' on 29th July from 10am – 6pm. A timed slot can be booked through the Monkhouse website here:

<https://www.monkhouse.com/appointments> Monkhouse have said they should be able to see families who have not made a booking for the day but those who have made an appointment will have priority and there may be a short wait until you are seen. Alternatively, bookings can be made for their school shop in Mold throughout the summer holidays. Due to demand, Monkhouse have recommended that online orders are placed early to avoid delays in receiving orders. Students who are starting with us in Year 10 will need to purchase a KS4 tie.



Families are encouraged to continue to complete Lateral Flow tests twice weekly throughout the Summer holidays. You can collect or order Lateral Flow devices here:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing/regular-rapid-coronavirus-tests-if-you-do-not-have-symptoms/>. If you or your child develop COVID-19 symptoms over summer you can book a PCR test through the [NHS Test & Trace website](#) or by calling 119.

Year 10 – Next year will be a big year for students moving into Year 11. As part of this move and to prepare students for their examination year, transition work will be set by subject teachers on Satchel One to engage with over the summer.

Looking ahead to September:

Students in Year 7 and Year 12 are due to return to school on Thursday 2nd September with the rest of the school joining them on Friday 3rd September. The Government is allowing schools flexibility

with dates in order to test students. It is possible guidance will change again in August, however, start dates and arrangements will be shared by Friday 27th August.

When Year 7 start with us they will have the day to meet their new classmates and teachers and find their way around Bishops'. Students on their first day will not be expected to bring in their PE kit but should come prepared for lessons with the following equipment:

- Pens (blue or black)
- Pencils
- Colouring Pencils
- Green pen for self-assessment
- Ruler
- Rubber
- Highlighters
- Compass
- Protractor
- Glue
- Scientific Calculator
- Reading book

6th Form student leadership team

Congratulations to the students appointed for 2021-22, their letters of application were full of enthusiasm and ideas for the coming year.



Asymptomatic testing:

All secondary school students will receive two on-site lateral flow device tests, 3-5 days apart, on their return in September. Students should then continue to test twice weekly at home with Lateral Flow tests distributed from school until the end of September. Lateral flow tests are available during the summer from local pharmacy or ordered online from <https://maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/> The evidence used by the government to base their autumn testing policies is here: [Evidence summary: COVID-19 - children, young people and education settings - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Bus Transport September 2021: S61 and S5:

We have been informed by the local authority that the duplicate 61 service, the S61 will be withdrawn at the end of this term. This is because the Local Authority have been advised that the DfE Covid Support funding to the local authority to assist with social distancing on public transport will not continue into the autumn term. We understand that the original 61 service will continue to run.

The S5 service was also funded from the DfE Covid Support funding and we understand that there have been discussions involving a parental group, Parish Councillors and the local MP Chris Matherson with regards to the withdrawal of this service. We are awaiting further information and discussion regarding this and we will update our website as soon as we know the outcome.

Key Dates for your diary

Date	Event	Information
29 th July 2021	Monkhouse Uniform Sale	
10 th August 2021	Year 13 Examination Results released electronically with support in school	Information will be shared with the year group.
12 th August 2021	Year 11 Examination Results released electronically, with support in school	Information will be shared in advance.
1 st September 2021	Staff INSET day	School closed to students
2 nd September 2021	School year begins for Y7 and Y12	Final confirmation by Friday 27 th Aug
3 rd September 2021	School reopen to all years	Final confirmation by Friday 27 th Aug
9 th September 2021	Year 7 parent/carer information evening	Information in September
16 th September 2021	Year 10 parent/carer information evening	Information in September
21 st September 2021	Year 6 Open Evening	Year 6 only and limited numbers: Book here

Finally, I would like to reiterate that our students have being exceptional in how they have coped with disruptions throughout the school year. I would like to thank them and of course you, for the on-going support we receive as a school.

Best wishes



Ian Wilson, Headteacher

Prayer

Help me to give thanks in good times and bad,
And to remember that you are with me in both.

Amen

Give thanks in all circumstances. 1 Thessalonians 5:18