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BISHOPSHALT SCHOOL

"Above all else a place for learning"

March 2021

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Bishopshalt is truly looking forward to the return of students next week. Though we are very proud of what we have accomplished during this most recent lockdown in terms of our Remote Learning curriculum, having the students back on school site in physical lessons is truly exciting.

With the return of students, we must remember that we are in the middle of a pandemic and therefore we will have procedures and expectations that students and staff will need to adhere to, to ensure that we minimise the risk of transmission. As Government guidance changes we will continue to refine our practice.

As you are aware, all students will be tested three times in the first two weeks of return to school. Thank you to all the parents that have filled in the consent form, or provided the school with further details. Following the three tests, Bishopshalt will provide students with testing kits to take home, so that they can still be tested twice a week. As we have been testing students and staff onsite since Christmas, we are very confident in the process, and that we will be able to support students who may feel anxious. If there are positive cases within the school community we will continue to track and trace and have to isolate close contacts. Students that have to isolate will have access to their curriculum from home.

Last week we sent home consent letters. Thank you to the parents that have all completed the electronic consent form. If you are intending to complete the Electronic form, can we please ask that that is completed today to ensure we are able to follow up where necessary in advance of students returning. The form is [available here](#).

This morning during assembly, we played the students this [video](#) to help them understand the process that will take place, this video is also available on the Website.

Please be reminded of the individual Year group arrangements for returning to school as follows:

[Year 13](#) [Year 12](#) [Year 11](#) [Year 10](#) [Year 9](#) [Year 8](#) [Year 7](#)

Students will be required to wear either blue, black or surgical style masks throughout the day when they are not in their Bubble Zone. In classes where it is possible to socially distance to two metres, it will be at the teachers discretion to not enforce mask wearing. When students are in the Bubble zone, for either break, lunch, or Study periods for Sixth Form, students will not be required to wear masks. However they will still be expected to socially distance. Masks will not be required during lessons where there is physical exertion such as PE or Dance, nor if lessons can be conducted outside. The school is aware of students who are exempt from mask wearing, however please contact zbermingham@bishopshalt.school if the situation has changed for your child.



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Headteacher: Mr L McGillicuddy

With the return to school, please can I remind your child to try on their uniform as soon as possible to ensure everything still fits and that they are ready for school. The standard uniform will be expected, and on PE uniform days students will be expected to wear a full Bishopshalt PE kit. Students will still be assigned to Bubble Zones, and as such they must ensure that they have wet weather gear to hand if necessary. We do suggest that each child brings an umbrella with them each day. Though the weather is warming, it is not improbable that we will have cold and wet weather in the months ahead and therefore students must be prepared for that eventuality.

Before school, during break and lunch and in between lessons students will remain in bubble zones, and must arrive at school during their allotted arrival times as per before Christmas, and that has been recently communicated with you. There have been changes to Bubble Zone locations, which we will share with students upon their return. As per before Christmas we will return with staggered exit times at the end of the day. I remind you that at the end of the school day students are not to meet up with peers but return directly home.

As throughout this Pandemic, our [Risk Assessment](https://www.bishopshalt.hillingdon.sch.uk/) for return of students is on the Website <https://www.bishopshalt.hillingdon.sch.uk/>

With this year's Summer grades now being determined by the school, Bishopshalt has worked on a system that is fair and appropriate for our Year 11 and 13 students. We will be completing two small assessments for each subject for the remainder of the year. Both assessments will take place after two weeks of re-teaching material that has been covered previously. These results, and the students work throughout the last two academic years will then inform the Centre Assessed Grades. For Year 11 and 13 parents we will write to you with more detail in the coming days about how the entire process will work.

I thank you again for your continued support and cooperation.

Mr L McGillicuddy
Headteacher