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BISHOPSHALT SCHOOL
"Above all else a place for learning"

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17th July 2020

Dear Parents, Caregivers & Students,

It has been an exceptionally eventful first year as the Headteacher of Bishopshalt.

Firstly, I would like to thank you all for supporting the changes that I initiated for the behaviour and expectations at the beginning of the year. Your support has really enabled Bishopshalt to become even a better and more caring school.

I also want to thank all of you for helping us educate your children from home throughout the forced school lockdown. Throughout the process, we have tried to provide the best education we could, and constantly looked at how we could improve our provision to provide you as much as support as possible.

In terms of next year, all students will be returning to school September. We will be offering the full curriculum, but will be ensuring we meet all COVID related guidance to reduce as much risk as we can. I ask you to ensure that before you return in September you read and understand the **Student Protocol**. In this document you will find the procedures and expectations of students within school. We will constantly keep this under review in terms of the local and national situation. As always we will continually keep you updated via direct contact and also through our website.

Students return will be staggering the first two weeks, the days and times for return are included in the protocol. The rationale is quite simple, we want to ensure that all staff are as prepared as possible for the return of students and understand the new protocols required of them. We will return with Year 7 and 12 as we want to give as much time to these year groups individually as they did not sit exams this year and they missed their induction and transition programmes. Year groups 8, 9 and 10 will then follow as these students have not been in school since lock down. Finally Year 11 and 13 will return. Staggering the return will enable students to become used to new systems, feel confident in school and ensure the school can focus our efforts on providing a seemly transition back to school.

As you are aware next Academic year the school day starts at 8.30am and finishes at 3.30pm. You will note that this will be slightly different when we return. This is to ensure that we can maintain students in their 'Bubbles' and reduce the amount of congestion through the school gates, and within the community.

Key Points

Bubbles

- All students will be in 'Bubbles'.
- These bubbles arrive and leave at different times, and will not mix within school.
- Movement within the school is managed by bubble, and each bubble has its own free time area known as a 'Bubble Zone'
- Toilets throughout the school are allocated to different bubbles to reduce mixing between bubbles



An Arts College specialising in Music and the Performing Arts Royal Lane, Hillingdon, Uxbridge, UB8 3RF

Headteacher: Mr L McGillicuddy

Teaching and Learning

- Next Year we will not be using Show My Homework, but giving all parents access to our Google Classrooms. This will enable all parents to obtain a weekly report, at your own leisure, of the work being set to and completed by your children.
- Bishopshalt will have a One Week timetable next year. This will help parents and students with routines.

Uniform and Equipment

- We expect all students to return in full school uniform next year. To support a wide curriculum, there will be days initially when students will be permitted to attend school in PE kit. This will eliminate the need to change uniform.
- We ask that all students bring a spare pair of shoes to school if their Bubble Zone is on a field.
- Bishopshalt will provide all students with a Mini Whiteboard in September. Teachers will maintain 2 metres distance from students, and as such we will use these Mini Whiteboards to ascertain feedback within lessons.
- Students must bring a full pencil case, including a whiteboard pen, each day. Students must have spare pens so that we minimise sharing of equipment.
- If you would like to donate any uniform that a member of your family has outgrown, to support other members of our community it would be greatly appreciated. We will wash the Uniform and this will help us ensure that all students are able to return to school in September in Full School uniform despite any individual circumstances. Uniform can be dropped to the school from the week commencing 17th August from 9:30 to 12:00pm each day. If you would need support with uniform and would like to arrange to collect some of the recycled items, please email zbermingham@bishopshalt.school and we will make arrangements for you to come into school during the final two weeks of the holiday.

Extra Provision

- For the immediate future we will be unable to open the dining hall for breakfast and break time. We are extending lunch to ensure all students can access a meal in a COVID secure manner.
- We ask that students attend school with water and snacks for break time.
- The Library (LRC) use will be reduced. Using the LRC will be managed by staff.

If you would like a personal phone call to talk through the return in September please email office@bishopshalt.hillingdon.sch.uk and we will contact you from middle of August. However, please note that Bishopshalt will now close for three weeks. The email address above will still be monitored so that we can respond to any emergencies.

I do wish you and your families an excellent summer break and I very much look forward to welcoming all of our student back to school at the start of the next academic year.

Yours sincerely



L McGillicuddy (Mr)
Headteacher