



Biddenham

International School & Sports College

Principal: Mr David Bailey

Head of School: Ms Eleanor Grylls

31st December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Return to school

We really hope that you have managed to relax and recuperate over the Christmas break, and that this letter finds you safe and well.

Following the government announcement yesterday by the Secretary of State for Education, we are writing to let you know that the plans shared with you at the end of last term have changed and now the arrangements will be as follows:

Week beginning Tuesday 5th January EHCP/Vulnerable/children of key workers only in school
All other year groups remote learning
Year 13 PE Exam students in on Wednesday 6th January am

Week beginning Monday 11th January Year 11, Year 13 and Year 12 Exam classes, including all Level 2 students and EHCP/Vulnerable/children of key workers will attend school. External exams will take place.
Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 (non exam classes) will not attend school and receive remote learning at home

Week beginning Monday 18th January All students will return to school

EHCP/Vulnerable/children of key workers attending school from Tuesday 5th January will be supervised following the remote learning programme provided for all students. As was the case previously, please contact us on enquiries@biddenham.beds.sch.uk if you have not done so already. We will confirm the arrangements for the next 2 weeks directly with you on Monday 4th January.

As we have done previously, if your child is eligible for free school meals we will be contacting you as soon as possible to provide vouchers.

Remote learning

The remote learning provision will follow students' usual timetable and be accessible through the google classrooms for each of their subjects. Google services can be accessed on chromebooks, laptops, desk tops, tablets and mobile phones with internet access. There is a guide to help with this on the website, which can also be accessed at [Accessing google services from home.](#) Additionally, there are lots of helpful resources for remote learning on our website, which can be accessed [here](#). If you have any issues with accessing remote learning, please let us know by email at enquiries@biddenham.beds.sch.uk including your child's name and year group, or call 01234 342521.

Year 11 Practice Exams will take place, but with a revised timetable that will be shared with students as soon as possible, so none of the hard work revising will be lost!! Online lessons will focus on preparing for these exams and how to produce good quality exam work. For more ways to support your child with revision using GCSEPod, please visit www.gcsepod.com/parents where you'll find lots more information and resources. There are some fantastic webinars specifically designed for parents on how to utilise GCSEPod which can be found by following the link www.gcsepod.com/webinars/gcse-parent-carer-webinar/.

Biddenham Turn, Biddenham, Bedford, MK40 4AZ

Tel: 01234 342521

Fax: 01234 334530

Email: enquiries@biddenham.beds.sch.uk

Website: biddenham.beds.sch.uk

We are aware that there has been a rapid spread of positive cases of the virus both locally and nationally and levels of restrictions are under constant review. This means our plans are subject to further change, but we will endeavour to keep you informed swiftly of any changes.

During the first week in January we will be making arrangements for mass testing of students and staff as per the government's instructions and will alert you to the details following local authority guidance and further training. We would welcome any volunteers willing to help with the supervision of administering the tests or with the administration tasks that come with the process. Please email your contact details and availability to the school office at enquiries@biddenham.beds.sch.uk to register your interest.

Finally, we urge all our families to take very seriously the advice to follow the latest Tier 4 restrictions to minimise the further spread of infection, reduce the pressure on the NHS and allow us the best possible chance to get young people back to school as soon as possible. We will continue to review our own safety measures as students return to school to keep our whole school community as safe as we possibly can over the coming weeks.

Once again, we would like to thank you for your ongoing support and patience in these challenging times and wish you all a very safe, healthy and happy new year.

Yours sincerely



David Bailey
Principal



Eleanor Grylls
Head of School