



Biddenham

International School & Sports College

Principal: Mr David Bailey

Head of School: Ms Eleanor Grylls

November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: A few reminders as we head into the dark mornings

We have had a wonderfully busy and vibrant start to the year - Open Evenings, Spoken Word events, a variety of school trips and students engaging in clubs and extracurricular activities to mention a few - and we are pleased with the academic progress being made by our students. This last part has been particularly important for our Year 11's and Year 13's, who are very much embroiled in working towards those dreaded final exams - with Practice exams at the end of this term. We find that students who work hard and prepare well for these exams, supported by parents and carers, always achieve better grades in the summer examinations.

We also wanted to write to you to remind you of a few safety and organisational points as we head into the Winter months:

Travel to and from school:

We promote healthy lifestyles and encourage students to walk or cycle to school - please make sure that you encourage that too and ensure that students leave the house early enough to **arrive at school 5 minutes before lesson starts every day**. Please encourage them to come straight to school (and indeed at the end of the day to come straight home) and to not wait for friends who might make them late. [Here is a link](#) to the timings of the school day.

We offer a **Free Breakfast for all our students** and it would be great if students organised themselves to get here 20 minutes earlier so they can have breakfast before they start their lessons. We know that students who are here every day and are always on time and prepared for learning are the ones who have the greatest success...that's a fact!. So, attendance and punctuality is key and any support you can give us in ensuring students are here on time is really appreciated.

With the darker mornings and evenings if your child is cycling or walking please ensure they have some reflective clothing - and if cycling wear a helmet and have lights.

If you cannot avoid bringing your child to school by car please consider dropping them off half way and letting them walk the rest of the route (but not so they are late) and drive carefully if you are driving on to the site using the drop off and pick up points on the left of the drive as you go back out. Please try not to stop on the turning circle. If you are coming by car you may need to leave earlier particularly now that Bedford Modern School have moved into the old St Gregory's site therefore increasing the amount of traffic on Biddenham turn in the morning.

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Uniform









All students are expected to wear full school uniform as shown on this [link](#). Uniform can be purchased online www.swischoolwear.co.uk. If you require preloved uniform items please contact enquiries@biddenham.beds.such.uk and we will be happy to help. Our basic school uniform items of plain black full length trousers, plain black skirt, plain white shirt/blouse, black or navy blue shalwar kamiz/jalbaab can be purchased relatively cheaply from any high street or supermarket clothes retailer.

If students have [Dance on their timetable](#), then on those days they should attend school in PE kit.

Equipment

In order to be prepared for school, the following is a list of suggested equipment:

It is very important that you have the following equipment with you while at school.

PENS and Pencil (blue or black and green biro)	PENCIL CASE	RULER	RUBBER
			
SHARPENER	COLOUR PENS/PENCILS	SCISSORS	GLUE STICK
			
PROTRACTOR SET	SCHOOL BAG	COMPASS	SCIENTIFIC CALCULATOR
			
HEADPHONES (for Chromebook)	READING BOOK (these can be borrowed from the school library)	SHIN PADS (in addition to PE kit)	CHROMEBOOK AND CHARGER (provided by school)
			

Your Sincerely,

Also remember that **as parents you can get subject and homework information through google classroom updates** and track attendance and behaviour through signing up to classcharts. [Here is a link](#) to the website for more information.

We also encourage parents to access additional learning resources which can be found on subject areas of the website that may be of interest to your child; podcasts, wider reading, videos to name a few.

We are, as ever, extremely grateful for all the support we receive from our school community and are incredibly proud of our students and staff.

Warm regards,



Mr D Bailey
Principal



Ms E Grylls
Head of School