



Biddenham

International School & Sports College

Principal: Mr David Bailey

Head of School: Ms Eleanor Grylls

April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a wonderfully busy and vibrant spring term including events such as Spring into Dance, a Year 7 Poetry competition with a special guest visit from poet Anthea Speaks, a wonderfully attended Iftar event, our Learning Club showcase, a variety of school trips and students engaging in clubs and extracurricular activities to mention just a few.

We have also been involved in the important business of assessments and reporting and are pleased with the academic progress being made by our students. This has been particularly important for our Year 11's and Year 13's, who are now on the homeward stretch towards those final exams. We find that students who attend regularly, work hard and take advantage of all of the revision materials and sessions, supported by parents and carers, always achieve better grades in the summer examinations.

As we go into a fresh new term it is a good opportunity to revisit and renew some of our school routines and guidance so that we are all clear about our high expectations.

Attendance and punctuality

We promote healthy lifestyles and encourage students to walk or cycle to school and with the lighter mornings and longer days, it would be great to encourage even more students to do so. Please ensure that students leave the house early enough to arrive at school **5 minutes before lesson starts every day**. To help with this, all Year 7 and 8 students are expected on school site by 7.45am (8.45am on Tuesday) with the rest of the school on site by 7:55am and 8.45am on a Tuesday.

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, good attendance and punctuality is key and any support you can give us in ensuring students are here on time is really appreciated.

Uniform

The majority of students come to school smartly dressed in full school uniform, but we just want to clarify a few points. **All students in Year 7-11 are expected to wear full school uniform** as shown on this [link](#).

Uniform can be purchased online www.swischoolwear.co.uk. Our basic school uniform items of plain black full length trousers (not leggings), plain black skirt, plain white shirt/blouse, black or navy blue shalwar kamiz/jalbaab and school shoes (not trainers) can be purchased relatively cheaply from any high street or supermarket clothes retailer. If you require preloved uniform items please contact enquiries@biddenham.beds.sch.uk and we will be happy to help.

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Tel: 01234 342521

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Website: biddenham.beds.sch.uk

Equipment

Part way through the school year, we can find that school equipment can start to dwindle a little bit, so now is a good time to stock up. The following is a list of suggested items:

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 Signet...

Chromebooks have been issued to all students and they are an integral part of learning at Biddenham. **It's important that students bring their chromebooks with them every day**, fully charged and bring their chargers as well (just in case). This allows everyone to access a full and engaging curriculum.

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 have so much to look forward to this term, including a whole school Culture Day, a Drama showcase, the sports presentation evening, Year 11 and Year 13 Proms, so many trips and visits and clubs and much more! Please encourage your children to participate in the wider life of the school; it can bring so much enjoyment and fulfilment and develop a sense of belonging and community.

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Bailey', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mr D Bailey
Principal

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E Grylls', with a large, stylized 'G'.

Ms E Grylls
Head of School