

Blessed George Napier Catholic School and Sixth Form

A Youth Sport Trust Lead School for Inclusion

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Compassion

Respect

Truth

Service

Forgiveness



25 August 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

As we approach the beginning of the new term, we congratulate all our year 13 and year 11 students on their examination results and wish them every success in the next stage of their education or training.

I wrote to you in July to say that there would be a number of changes necessary to facilitate the safe return of all students and staff to BGN this term. As you know students will be required to remain in their year group bubble throughout the day. We are now in a position to outline some of these changes in more detail. Please note the slight change to the time of the end of the school day.

Keeping students and staff at BGN safe

Students and staff must not attend school if they have any symptoms of Covid-19 (fever, cough, lack of taste/smell) and they must contact the school immediately and arrange a Covid-19 test. If a member of the household tests positive for Covid-19 then students/staff must self-isolate for 14 days. The school will cooperate fully with our local PHE team and the 'Track and Trace' system. Parents must be available to collect students immediately if they develop symptoms whilst at school.

There will be increased cleaning and hygiene procedures throughout the day. Students will be expected to clean their hands frequently and to follow instructions from staff without argument. Face coverings are currently not mandatory in schools England but if staff or students wish to wear their own, then we will fully support them. If they do bring a face covering, please also bring a clean plastic bag to store the mask in if it is removed it during the day. Disposable masks, if used, should be brought home for disposal. Rooms will be well ventilated. Students are reminded to maintain a safe social distance at all times when moving between different areas. They must only use the toilets allocated to their year group. Changes have been made to the timetable and to the school day to minimise the number of contacts between different groups of students and between staff and students. Movement around school will be restricted.

We will explain the details of all of these new measures when they arrive during an extended tutor period.

Changes to the school day and timetable

There will be a slightly staggered start to the school day. Key Stage 3 students should arrive at 8:45 and Key Stage 4/Key Stage 5 should arrive by 9:00. On arrival students will normally go straight to their tutor base. Tutor time begins at 9am.

Students traveling to school by bus will have received information from Grayline coaches and must comply with all of the safety regulations which they have put in place. They should also go straight to their tutor base on arrival and avoid mixing with other year group bubbles.

Principal: **Mr Fraser Long, B.Eng (Hons), MA.** headteacher@bgn.oxon.sch.uk

An academy within The Pope Francis Catholic Multi Academy Company which is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity registered in England and Wales with company number 9113542 and registered address Addison Road, Banbury, Oxon, OX16 9DG.

"The school's contribution to pupils' personal, spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is exemplary. Pupils go out of their way to do good things. They act as positive role models for younger children." *Ofsted, June 2017*

There are four periods in the day, instead of five, and these will be longer. Generally, students will remain in the same classroom and teachers will move between rooms throughout the day.

Each year group will have an allocated lunch time when they can purchase food, and breaks will be shorter.

In line with government guidelines we have had to make a slight change to the school day. This is to allow for staggered lunches of staff and students. **The day will end at the earlier time of 15:00 on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.** Wednesday will remain the same with a finishing time of 14:20. Curriculum contact will not be reduced by this change. School buses will accommodate this change.

Students will need to leave the site promptly at the end of the day and avoid congregating with others on their route home.

Uniform and equipment

There is no change to the school uniform policy. It is especially important that students bring in their own equipment because they will not be allowed to share with each other. Teachers will not be able to lend pens and so on. Students will also need to bring a water bottle and any other drinks or snacks they may need. The vending machines will not be available, and students will not be permitted to enter the hall other than during their allocated break.

What does the return to school look like?

- Wednesday 2nd September – Yr7 and Yr12 in school.
 - PE kit will not be required. Yr12 may wish to bring snacks or check the balance on their parent Pay account because they may not be able to leave school on that day to buy lunch offsite.
- Thursday 3rd September – Yr7, Yr8 and Yr12 are in school
- Friday 4th September – Yr7, Yr8, Yr9, Yr10 and Yr12 are in school
- Monday 7th onwards – all year groups are in school full time.

Everyone at BGN is looking forward to welcoming all of our year groups back to school. We will work together as a school community for the benefit of all our students. We continue to pray for those who have been affected by this pandemic.

Thank you to all our parents/guardians for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



Fraser Long
Principal

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