



Herne Bay High School

Specialist Sports College

Bullockstone Road, Herne Bay, Kent CT6 7NS
☎ 01227 361221 ✉ principal@hernebayhigh.org



13th July 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome to the penultimate week of term. I hope you have had a pleasant weekend and managed to enjoy some of the nice weather that we are finally having. This communication is going to start to share some very important information about school in September. This will be the first of a number of letters and a short film to help you and your son / daughter begin to understand all the changes that we have been requested to make by the guidance from the Department of Education (DfE). This can be found here:

- [COVID-19: Information to parents and carers](#)
- [COVID-19 Secondary School Guidance for return to schools in SEPTEMBER](#)

Before I begin, I would like to thank everyone who has found the time to come into school over the last 4 weeks. I hope you have found it helpful and I also hope that it made you realise how seriously we take the safety and wellbeing of all staff and students. This trust is going to be important as we move to a much more complex situation in September.

I am going to bullet point a number of key changes we are making; it is very important that you start to talk about these at home and start to understand the impact they have on how your son/daughter will behave, interact and engage in school life in September.

September plan - Brief overview

The school is going to be redesigned into 5 areas - one for each year group (Year 7 to Year 11) with each mentor group being allocated a base room. A high proportion of all lessons will be taught in this base room, with the specialist teachers moving to teach their students within this base room. Year 12 & 13 will, where possible, only be in school when they have a taught lesson although we will be making some provision for those students who cannot safely leave site. This approach will minimise the movement of students around the school and will minimise contacts.

New mentor groups and teaching groups will be formed to keep class sizes even so they fit into the altered classrooms. Mentor groups will be made up of the same year group only.

There will be a “one way” system of movement that every person in school, staff and students MUST follow.

There will be 3 food outlets, all serving the same “Grab & Go” food. This will then be taken back to the year area for consumption in the outside communal space.

There will be NO food served at breaktime, therefore we encourage all students to bring a snack and a drink. I should also request that wherever possible students are provided with a packed lunch.

There are a number of Public Health requirements set by the government and implemented by the school that, if ignored, could significantly increase the risk of the transmission of coronavirus.



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These MUST all be followed without exception. Regrettably failure to adhere to these could lead to a parent being asked to remove their child from the school site:

- Students MUST not interact with students from another year group, they WILL NOT be allowed to go to another year area.
- Students MUST follow the one-way system and signage at all time to reduce face to face contact.
- Students need to bring all their equipment for the day; teachers will not be able to lend anything at all.
- Students MUST endeavour to keep 2 metres away from ADULTS at all times. They should try and keep a 1m distance from their friends where possible.
- Students MUST wash/sanitise their hands when they enter/leave any classroom, the lunch hall or the school site.
- Students will also be given a coloured lanyard; this indicates their year group colour and it MUST be worn around the neck at all times.

All the above are included in a new COVID19 behaviour policy a copy which will be made available on the website by the end of term. We will ask parents to read and sign this to say they have seen it and we will also require students to sign an updated home/school agreement when they are in on their induction day in September. I trust that you will all work with us to make return to school as safe as we can possibly make it.

There are a few other important points that I would like to share now so that you have time to make arrangements:

- Students will wear normal school uniform including their blazer and tie and abide by the school's uniform policy - the guidance is now explicit to say there are no issues associated with clothing that require anything different. We would like to ask, if possible, that on days when students have PE/Dance they wear their school PE kit to school and in school all day.
- School will be closed to all students on Wednesday afternoons with the last lesson ending at 12.50. We will serve lunch if needed until 1.20 but all students will need to be off site by 1.25pm.
- Initially there will be NO afterschool clubs/activities, however this situation will be reviewed, and we will communicate when we are ready to get our extracurricular activities up and running again.
- The government is still advising against the use of public transport if possible, as such please look for alternative arrangements. However, if you need to use public transport be aware that students are currently required to wear a face mask. Please discuss with your child the need to socially distance on their journeys to and from school.
- We are also asking that due to the restrictions and the need to minimise transmission risk, students are not able to be dropped off or picked up by car on the school site.
- We ask that you make arrangements, where possible, for children to come to school in family units or within year units.



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I am sure you are aware that the government has made it clear that there is an expectation that ALL students must return to school in September. As such, we will follow the full statutory guidance on attendance and resume attendance monitoring and calling should a child not attend or be late.

The first week back in September will be staggered to enable everyone to be trained and become familiar with these changes as such the 1st week will look like this:

Week 1	Tuesday 1 st Sept:	INSET (STAFF ONLY)	
	Wednesday 2 nd Sept:	INSET (STAFF ONLY)	
	Thursday 3 rd Sept:	Year 7 & Year 9 & Year 11	(Year 8 & 10 stay at home)
		6 th Form enrolment	
	Friday 4 th Sept:	Year 7 & Year 8 & Year 10	(Year 9 & 11 stay at home)
		6 th Form enrolment	
Week 2	Monday 7 th Sept:	Year 7 - 11 Normal Lessons	
		6 th Form (AM Information/Induction, PM lessons)	

This is only the tip of the iceberg in terms of changes and routines, but they are all necessary to ensure we keep your child and our staff safe. I will be in contact again with further details, all of which will be available on the school website from Monday 20th July, and updated, if need be over the summer.

As always, stay safe and keep well,

With kind regards,

Mr J Boyes
Principal