

# Ernest Bevin College and Sixth Form Centre



A Specialist Sports, Mathematics & Computing College

Beechcroft Road, Tooting, London, SW17 7DF

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Principal: Ann Keane-Maher

1 September 2020

Dear parents and guardians,

This is to update students and families on the plans to reopen the College over the coming weeks. There have been some minor changes to plans since I wrote on 21 August. We are looking forward to lessons beginning again.

It is vitally important to us all that this process works. We have taken full account of the latest guidance from the government (published 28 August), reflected upon the successful partial reopening in the summer and listened to a range of views from students, staff and families. Our risk assessment and plan has been developed through the summer.

From 2 September to 11 September there will be induction and enrolment for years 7, 12 and 13 and reintegration interviews for years 8 to 10, with year 11 starting lessons. This is summarised in a table at the bottom of this letter. Families of students in years 7 to 10 will receive a message with an interview time. We followed a similar process with the reopening in the summer term, which contributed to the high levels of attendance and engagement of students.

Lessons will start on 14 September and all students are expected to attend each day. Students will be placed in class and year group bubbles, this will limit the number of people they are in contact with and therefore reduce the risk of transmission. Each bubble will enter by a different entrance, with staggered times, and wash their hands. Students will spend the bulk of their time in one group and in one room, with break and lunchtime staggered to avoid mixing of bubbles. There will be some movement, supervised, to allow practical subjects to be taught.

We have a robust plan for dealing with any suspected or confirmed case of Covid-19 and will follow guidance from Public Health England. We have increased the cleaning routines and provided hand sanitisers and lidded bins to encourage good hygiene. Classrooms are arranged to minimise face to face working.

Current guidance regarding facemasks is that they are not recommended in education settings, however students and staff may wear a mask if they wish to. We do stipulate that masks must be worn properly or carried in a sealed plastic bag. The College position on masks remains under review.

The canteen will reopen with a limited range in order to simplify service and reduce the risk of transmission, please ensure that your student has sufficient money on their account. They may of course bring a packed lunch.

We expect students to arrive at the College at the allocated time promptly, but not early, this is to minimise the risk of mixing bubbles. Students are encouraged to walk or cycle to College there is new and improved cycle parking available. Masks must be worn on public transport. We do ask that families take care to avoid creating issues with traffic or blocking access to drives should they wish to

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drop off or collect students by car. There have been traffic restrictions imposed upon residential roads in Tooting in recent weeks which may impact upon driving to the College.

Attendance is compulsory for all students, this is a very clear expectation (except in rare cases where a consultant has recommended remaining isolated). The view is now that the risks to students from missed education outweighs that from Covid-19. We do recognise that many students and families may be anxious about the return. Please do get in touch, we are very happy to provide details of our plans and to reassure.

We hope that there will be no need to close or partially close the College again, but we do have a contingency with Canvas prepared for remote working at very short notice should there be an outbreak on a local or national level.

It is vital that families do inform us of any students who displays symptoms of Covid-19 and of the result of any tests.

We ask families to support this reintegration by ensuring that students have full uniform and equipment for College, speaking to students about the need to cooperate fully with expectations around minimising risk from Covid-19 and also the need to be fully focussed upon studies once back at College. There will be limited access to drinking water and students should bring a bottle, ideally reusable. Students may wear their Ernest Bevin PE or Games kit on the day when they have PE, this must be the official shirt or top with the logo. All of these items can be bought from Hewitt's of Croydon: <https://www.hewittsofcroydon.com/>

There will be a process of assessment and baseline testing for students in the first weeks back at College. Students in years 8, 10 and 11 will have tests in the first week and those in years 7 and 9 during the third week. Students should not be anxious about these tests, they are to inform us of needs and allow us to develop effective lessons and programmes to help 'Catch-up'.

We are reviewing the arrangements for parents' evenings and transition meetings. These are clearly a valuable process in raising attainment, however it would not be possible to run these events in the usual way whilst maintaining social distancing. Likewise extracurricular activities and peripatetic lessons (music and sports) are not going to run for the first few weeks as we prioritise the opening of the college, we will review this position before half term.

We understand that the past 6 months have been a difficult and traumatic time for many families. Please do get in touch with us if there is any information we need to know about, any support which can be offered or if you have any questions or concerns.

Yours,

Ann Keane-Maher, Principal

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Wednesday	02/09/2020	INSET	
Thursday	03/09/2020	INSET	
Friday	04/09/2020	Year 12 enrolment	
Monday	07/09/2020	Year 10 interviews	Year 13 reenrolment
Tuesday	08/09/2020	Year 9 interviews	Year 13 reenrolment
Wednesday	09/09/2020	Year 8 interviews	year 12 timetables and induction
Thursday	10/09/2020	Year 7 interviews	Year 13 induction
Friday	11/09/2020	Year 7 induction morning and lessons	Year 11 lessons begin
Monday	14/09/2020	Timetable starts	